

Geneva meeting on boat people

BANGKOK, June 11. (Reuters): An international conference on Vietnamese boat people, fleeing their homeland in the greatest numbers since 1979, will open in Geneva next Tuesday.

The two-day meeting is expected to sanction tough screening procedures and pressure impoverished Vietnam to stem the flood of refugees, UN officials and Western diplomats said last week.

More than 70,000 Vietnamese, who fled their communist homeland mainly in rickety, overcrowded boats, are languishing in crowded camps throughout Southeast Asia.

"This damn thing's been going on now for 13 years," an aid official said. "It's an untenable situation for all concerned so you have to get some kind of arrangement where this thing stops."

Hong Kong, the worst hit with more than 40,000 boat people housed in crowded camps and detention centres, says most arrivals are economic migrants. Since last June it has classified as illegal immigrants those unable to prove they are victims of persecution.

Those who can't will eventually have to go home, officials said.

"Vietnam has got to take responsibility for its people and not export them," a British diplomat said.

Child soldiers' age limit 'low'

STOCKHOLM, June 11. (Reuters): International aid workers met in Sweden today with some vowing to oppose as too low a draft United Nations age limit for child soldiers.

Conference organizer Thomas Hammarberg, secretary-general of Sweden's Save the Children Foundation, said the age limit of 15 in a draft UN convention on children's rights was the result of US pressure.

"The age limit of 15 is much too low. It would be taking a step backwards," he said. "We have not given up the fight against this article in the draft convention."

Illegal foreign workers sent back from Singapore

SINGAPORE, June 11. (AP): More than 11,500 foreigners working illegally in affluent Singapore have returned to their homes in Thailand, India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and the Philippines fearing harsh new immigration laws.

An official grace period expired yesterday that had given embassies and high commissions of the five countries extra time to ferry out their citizens who had been caught working without permission in Singapore, which has one of

Asia's most robust economies.

The last group of 81 Filipino men and eight women flew home yesterday on a Philippines Air Force C-130. Most had entered Singapore on tourist visa and had taken construction jobs. The grace period spared them punishment.

"The Philippines was the last country to request a grace period to repatriate unpunished their nationals who have committed immigration offences here," Ho Bak Khee, deputy controller of immigration, was quoted

by the Sunday Times.

"No other foreign mission has approached us," Ho said.

The crackdown on foreign workers who overstay legitimate visas or come to Singapore with fake papers is related to a revised immigration law that metes out at least three lashes and three months behind bars to foreigners who overstay by more than 90 days or who enter the country illegally. Passed by Parliament last November, it took effect on April 1.

Flogging under medical supervision is done with a bamboo cane called a rotan. It is mandatory for such crimes as attempted murder, robbery, rape when a woman is injured or put in fear of harm, drug trafficking, vandalism and, now, working illegally.

The punishment is optional in cases of extortion, kidnapping and voluntarily causing grievous injury. Women, those sentenced to death and men older than 50 are not beaten.

Repatriation followed an island-

wide blitz of about 100 raids per month on construction projects and other job sites in the first four months of the year. Some 1,700 suspects were rounded up.

Thailand was the first to ask for a grace period to allow for the hasty repatriation of 9,842 workers in Thai Navy ships, special trains and buses. The expulsions briefly soured relations between Bangkok and Singapore.

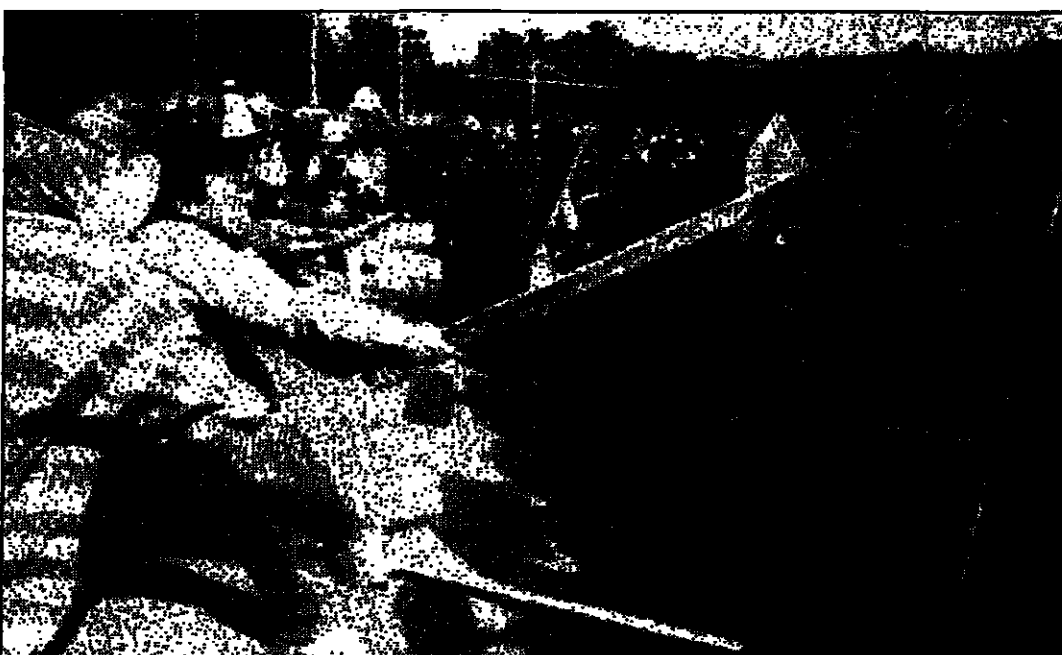
Diplomats in the high commissions of India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka sent home 1,585, 30 and 24 of their nationals

respectively.

Nine Indian men who overstayed their social visit passes by more than 90 days were the first to be charged under the amended law.

"We are not against people coming to Singapore to earn their living. But they must do so lawfully," Lee Boon Yang of the Home Affairs Ministry told parliament.

Illegal workers toil at menial jobs for 10 to 20 Singapore dollars (\$5.15 to 10.31) a day.



Students attack police

Student radicals attack riot police with wooden sticks after holding a rally at Seoul's Yonsei University on Saturday in protest against a government ban on attending a youth festival in Pyongyang next month. (Reuters wirephoto)

Airlift about to start

Angolans fleeing to Namibia

WINDHOEK, June 11. (Reuters): Hundreds of Angolans are fleeing into neighbouring Namibia to escape fighting between right-wing rebels and Angolan government troops, a Namibian government spokesman said today.

Up to 700 Angolans were reported to have entered northern Namibia, causing a major headache for UN officials who are poised to repatriate thousands of Namibians returning home after years of exile.

An international airlift of Namibian refugees starts tomorrow, the latest stage in the desert colony's UN-organised transition to independence from South Africa.

Namibian government spokesman Ebehardt Hoffmann said at least 300 Angolan refugees, and

perhaps hundreds more, had joined the stream of Namibians crossing the border to flee fighting between government troops and UNITA rebels.

He said he had no details of the flare-up in the decades-old war between the guerrillas of the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA) and Angolan forces.

Hoffmann said the influx of Angolans would hamper the massive job of repatriating Namibians, but added that he expected the UN refugee operation to stay on schedule.

Under the UN peace plan for Namibia, general elections will be held in November once all refugees have come home and a constitution will be drawn up ahead of full independence next year.

US-China standoff on Fang

(Continued from Page 1)

sought clarification of the arrest of a Hong Kong student activist who was detained as he was about to board a flight for the British colony.

Shanghai radio said Yao Yongzhan, who was accompanied to the airport by British consular staff, was leader of the banned "autonomous union of Shanghai college students."

A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman said Yao was under investigation for violating local regulations.

Reports from around the country today said security forces had rounded up hundreds of suspects in recent days in a massive drive against "counter-revolutionaries."

Official media issued chilling warnings to pro-democracy activists to disband their organisations and rally behind the rule of 84-year-old paramount leader Deng Xiaoping.

In Shanghai, which is believed to be the last bastion of student defiance of the government, authorities announced the arrest of a "counter-revolutionary clique."

Shanghai city radio said the "China Youth Democratic Party" aimed to topple the Chinese Communist Party from power.

The People's Daily, Communist Party mouthpiece, lavished praise on Deng as the saviour of the party and nation.

"Comrade Deng Xiaoping... resolutely made a brilliant decision to oppose chaos and put down the counter-revolutionary rebellion, rescued the party, rescued the nation and defended the basic interests of the people," it said.

The arrest warrant issued



Zhang Li-Min (left) and Zhou Li-Min, two Chinese workers from the Chinese Consulate in San Francisco announce their defection to the United States on Saturday during a pro-democracy vigil of 10,000 people at San Francisco City Hall. (Reuters wirephoto)

against Fang, China's best known dissident, was likely to fuel a crisis between China's hardline leadership and Washington.

The Bush administration last week blocked military sales to Beijing in protest at the bloody suppression of the pro-democracy movement.

Chinese media carried sharp denunciations of Fang, who was expelled from the Communist Party in 1987, accused of being a "bourgeois liberal."

The director of the Central Intelligence Agency, William Webster, said he sees no "real indication" of civil war between

rival factions in the Chinese Army.

Two men identified as Chinese consulate diplomats in San Francisco announced during a vigil for students slain in Beijing that they can no longer support their government and said they were defecting.

European Economic Community foreign ministers meeting

tomorrow will discuss a joint response to the brutal crackdown in China but are unlikely to take action for now, diplomats said. ■ Portugal's President Mario Soares said yesterday he stood by an accord signed with China on the future of Macao.

The 1986 accord pledges Portugal to cede the Macao enclave of nearly 500,000 to the Chinese by Dec. 20, 1999.

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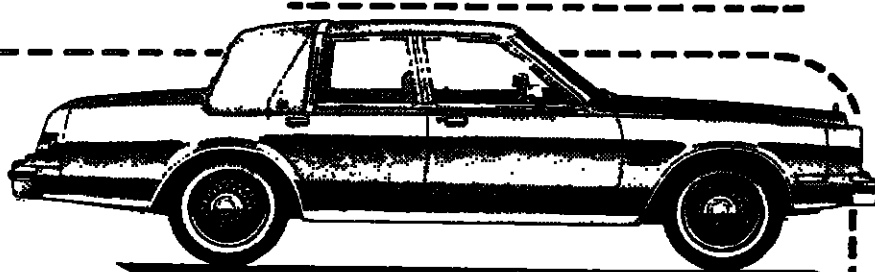
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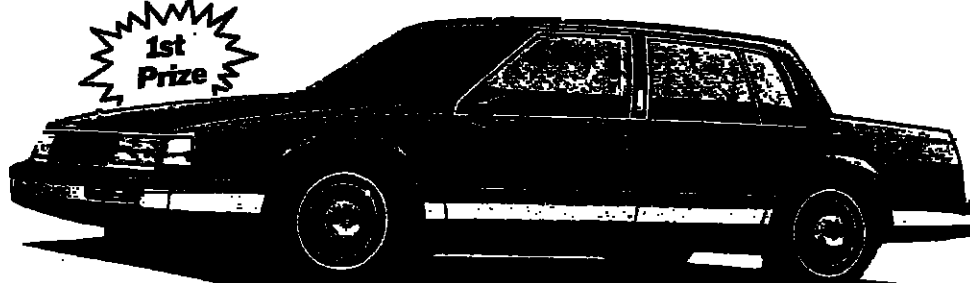
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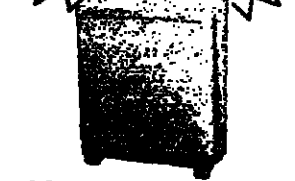
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NEWS IN BRIEF

Nine-to-five?

TAMWORTH, England, June 11. (AP): A Roman Catholic priest who claims he cannot find peace even in the bathroom has told his parish that he wants to be alone.

"I have suffered more during my nine months in Tamworth than I have in 22 years as a priest," the Rev. Teddy O'Brien told his congregation in the Midlands County of Staffordshire.

O'Brien said that he was once stuck in his presbytery bathroom for 10 minutes while two women, who had keys to the house, waited outside to see him.

"Other parishioners ring the doorbell and bang the door at all hours with minor queries that could wait until the following morning," said the priest, who announced that he had changed the locks in the house.

"I am not a nine-to-five priest," said O'Brien, whose plea for solitude was reported in the Sunday Telegraph. "None of us is. But we need rest as much as anyone else. We're only human."

Kurds kill soldier

ANKARA, June 11. (Reuters): Separatist Kurdish guerrillas have killed a soldier in southeast Turkey and set fire to a village school, Anatolian news agency said today.

Two other soldiers were wounded in a shootout between rebels and military patrol last night near the town of Fervari in Siirt province, the semi-official agency said.

Ethnic Turks

ANKARA, June 11. (Reuters): Turkey, striving to cope with a wave of ethnic Turks expelled from Bulgaria, has set up a tent city to house 10,000 deportees, Anatolian news agency said.

It said the camp was near the town of Luleburgaz, 70 km (45 miles) east of the joint border over which some 2,000 ethnic Turks have arrived since Friday.

Abortion protests

NEW YORK, June 11. (AP): Police arrested nearly 600 abortion opponents yesterday who tried to block clinics around the nation, including one in Los Angeles disrupted by shouting and showing matches between protesters and abortion rights advocates.

Protests also took place in Pennsylvania, Indiana, Wisconsin, Michigan and Virginia.

Conference opens

KAMPALA, June 11. (Reuters): A 33-nation conference opens in Kampala tomorrow aimed at ensuring that new development schemes do not threaten Africa's environment.

Two hundred ministers and environment experts from the African countries are to take part in the five-day conference and a spokesman for Uganda's Ministry of Environment Protection told reporters it would be the first of a series.

Lockerbie medal

LONDON, June 11. (KUNA): A senior US intelligence officer killed in the sabotage of the Pan Am jet over Lockerbie, Scotland, last year has been awarded a posthumous medal, it was reported here today.

In a front page story, the Sunday Telegraph newspaper said that the award was the closest the US government has come to admitting that the destroyed 747 carried a group of agents returning "after a hazardous undercover operation in the Middle East."

Fire on US ship

LONG BEACH, California, June 11. (AP): Fourteen sailors suffered smoke inhalation when a US navy helicopter carrier caught fire in port, but there was no serious damage to the ship, Navy officials said.

The Peleliu, an amphibious assault ship used as a helicopter carrier, caught fire at about 10:30 pm on Friday, Lieut Cmdr Steve Chessier said.

Nuclear warning

PARIS, June 11. (KUNA): A French newspaper today warned of the "fragile" condition of the country's nuclear reactors, saying the government must co-ordinate a series of inspections.

The "Journal du Dimanche" weekly paper revealed that many incidents have occurred in French nuclear reactors where control systems prematurely age, valves open or close without notice and electronic security systems deteriorate rapidly.

Opinion poll

DUBLIN, June 11. (KUNA): Irish Prime Minister Charles Haughey may not achieve the government majority he was seeking in next week's general election, according to an opinion poll here today.

Argentine arrested

RIO DE JANEIRO, June 11. (AP): Brazilian police have arrested a member of the Argentine radical group that attacked a military compound in Buenos Aires in January, the daily Journal do Brasil reported yesterday.

Army killings

LIMA, June 11. (Reuters): Peruvian troops killed a top field commander of the Maoist Sendero Luminoso (shining path) guerrilla group and at least 20 other rebels in two clashes in the Andean highlands, Army spokesmen said yesterday.

The killings on Friday amounted to some of the Army's biggest blows against Sendero this year, the spokesmen said.

Burmese assault

MAE SOT, Thailand, June 11. (AP): Burmese troops launched a major assault today on a Karen guerrilla stronghold near the Thai frontier, Thai border patrol police said.

About 1,500 Burmese troops backed by artillery and mortar fire attacked the rebel base of Pa Loo, which is defended by about 700 ethnic Karen guerrillas, said the police sources, speaking on condition of anonymity.



Sakharov demands reforms

Human rights campaigner Andrei Sakharov pauses after addressing a 2,000-strong rally near Moscow's Luzhniki Stadium. The Nobel peace prize laureate reasserted his demands for radical reforms and effective parliamentary control of the Soviet leadership. (Reuters wirephoto)

Uzbekistan under control, 100 dead

Meskhetians airlifted

MOSCOW, June 11. (Agencies): Unrest in the Soviet Central Asian republic of Uzbekistan has been brought under control, but at least 100 people have died in a week of clashes pitting Uzbeks against minority Meskhetians, newspapers said today.

The Communist Party newspaper Pravda said the estimated 7,000 special troops sent to the Fergana valley, southeast of the Uzbek capital Tashkent, had restored order.

"During the past 24 hours, the situation has mainly stabilised and is being controlled in the region's cities and districts by police and Interior Ministry troops units," the daily said, quoting the commander of troops in Fergana district.

The Army newspaper Krasnaya Zvezda reported that about 100 people died in the first few days of the disturbances, in which Uzbeks hunted down and killed Meskhetians — Turkified Georgians deported to Central Asia by Josef Stalin in 1944.

It said about 1,000 people had been injured and 650 homes destroyed. More than 11,000 Meskhetians — two-thirds of the total living in the area — had been placed in refugee camps.

Telephone links between Moscow and the region were not functioning today and foreign correspondents were barred from the area.

News reports yesterday had said that the military had airlifted several hundred Meskhetians out of Uzbekistan.

Reports also said that the unrest, the worst in several decades in the Soviet Union, was threatening to spill over into the neighbouring republic of Tajikistan and had gone beyond ethnic clashes, giving way to more general rioting.

Krasnaya Zvezda repeated suggestions that the unrest was being orchestrated by groups who felt threatened by reforms in Soviet society. It quoted a military officer as saying "leaders with vested interests" were behind the violence.

Soviet television news yesterday said 11 people had been killed in the latest clashes in Kokand and near the town of Fergana.

It said rioters had carried green Islamic flags and issued several demands, including resettlement of the Meskhetians, closure of a chemical complex in the town and an increase in the price of cotton, Uzbekistan's main industry.

Earlier reports had said about 100 people suffered gunshot wounds in Kokand on Friday in a rampage by 5,000 people armed with automatic rifles and pistols.

Thousands of the Interior Ministry's soldiers shelled back and forth across the valley to confront rioters, and TV news programme Vremya showed them wearing helmets, bullet-proof vests and carrying machine-guns outside the Kokand city government offices.

"The attacks of the extremists are more frequently taking on the character of organised military action," said the government newspaper Izvestia.

Uzbek activists have blamed unemployment, overuse of chemical fertilizers and pesticides in the region's cotton fields, and poor food supplies for building tension that finally exploded in violence.

Questioned on Bush's call to



Aftermath of violence

This photo from Soviet Television shows a lone cyclist riding past the burned out wreck of a car in a street in Kokand in Soviet Uzbekistan. A wave of ethnic violence against Meskhetian Turks killed more than 80 people last weekend in Fergana and is now spreading to neighbouring regions. (Reuters wirephoto)

East German leader welcomes Bush plan

WASHINGTON, June 11. (AP): East German President Erich Honecker welcomes a US plan to cut conventional arms in Europe as a step toward the Warsaw Pact position on disarmament, according to a published report today.

The Washington Post also quoted Honecker in its Sunday edition as confirming that East German border guards have been ordered not to use deadly force to stop civilians who attempt to flee into West Germany unless the soldiers are threatened themselves.

In a two-hour interview conducted last Wednesday in East Berlin, the Post quoted the influential Warsaw Pact leader as saying President George Bush's proposal for NATO and Warsaw Pact nations to cut conventional arms is "close to our striving for radical conventional disarmament."

Questioned on Bush's call to

Soviet agencies may be abolished

MOSCOW, June 11. (AP): Premier Nikolai I. Ryzhkov has proposed abolishing some state agencies in an attempt to pare down the top-heavy bureaucracy that is widely blamed for the country's economic ills.

Ryzhkov, who was criticised during the just-concluded session of the Congress of People's Deputies for failing to cope with inflation and shortages of food and consumer goods, yesterday said 18 ministries should be eliminated and some powers surrendered to the 15 Soviet republics.

Speaking to the Supreme Soviet — the full-time legislature — Ryzhkov said the number of ministries in charge of basic industries, construction, transport, agriculture and defence should be cut to 32.

Among those to be eliminated would be the ministries overseeing chronically scarce consumer goods, along with water projects and construction supplies. Ryzhkov said the remaining ministries in Moscow would abandon their day-to-day management of the country's industries and focus instead on long-range planning and scientific and technological work.

Revamping

Yesterday's proposed shake-up, which the legislature is to vote on later this month, would be the largest revamping of state agencies since President Mikhail S. Gorbachev came to power in March 1985.

Ryzhkov told the lawmakers in a session broadcast live on radio and TV that only 10 of 100 members of the Council of Ministers, or cabinet, would remain once the ministries are revamped.

He mentioned that the Ministry of Construction Materials would be abolished and that republics would be able to control building supplies themselves. Several lawmakers have blamed the ministry for shortages of construction materials.

The ministries were a frequent target during 13 days of debate in the new Soviet parliament, the Congress of People's Deputies. Gennadi Gerasimov, star of Moscow news conferences and international summits, has found a new forum for the Kremlin's glasnost message — West German television game shows.

Taking a bizarre break from preparing Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's visit here starting on Monday, Gerasimov appeared yesterday evening with a transvestite singer and American TV star Don Johnson of "Miami Vice" to plug Soviet-West German friendship.

"We should swap jokes, not missiles," the Foreign Ministry spokesman quipped through an interpreter to the audience of the highly popular Second German Television (ZDF) game show "Wetten, Dass..." (Bet That...).

Congress fails to enact real reform

All talk, no action

MOSCOW, June 11. (AP): The inaugural session of the new Soviet Congress may in the end prove more frustrating than elevating for a nation that has begun demanding results to match its leaders' talk.

Frequently contrasted lately with China, where there was economic reform without political reform, the Soviet Union has made dramatic strides in opening its political system to popular participation and unrestrained debate.

But one point that debate harped on during the first session of the Congress of People's Deputies was the failure of Mikhail Gorbachev's perestroika, or restructuring, to produce tangible improvements in people's lives.

The Soviet Union is a superpower with missiles but little meat. Its people have money but nothing to buy. Giant factories produce pollution, but to no end, for new people want their shoddy products. The result is a grinding sort of poverty and frustration bred by chronic shortages and compounded by a new national awareness that life isn't like that elsewhere and shouldn't be at home. What's more, there is general agreement things are getting worse as everyday goods disappear from stores, black marketeering flourishes and inflation saps people's savings.

Yet the Congress, after two weeks of mind-boggling televised criticism that five years ago was hardly expressed around a kitchen table for fear of being overheard, adjourned on Friday leaving no particular course for the Kremlin to follow, no consensus for a new programme of action.

Gorbachev called the meeting "the most outstanding event in the entire history of the Soviet state" and said it heralded "a new stage of perestroika." Certainly in terms of free expression, that was true.

Failure

But Human rights Activist Andrei Sakharov, whose presence as a deputy testified to the genuineness of the new democratic spirit, said on the final day that the Congress had failed in its main task as he defined it: "To establish a system of power to overcome economic and social problems and put an end to ecological madness."

Communist maverick Boris Yeltsin, who had called on the Congress to approve at least one programme to cure a social ill, told the Supreme Soviet Legislature on Saturday he agreed with Sakharov's criticism. "We have not been offered a short-term programme, economic and financial, which would lead our country out of the dead end," Yeltsin said.

There have been many cries recently, including at the Congress, for the government to import popular consumer goods as way of demonstrating that those who heed Gorbachev's pleas to work harder and better will have something to buy with the rewards they earn. Without some incentive, there seems little reason for people to risk breaking from the stagnant environment Gorbachev so often rails against.

But Premier Nikolai Ryzhkov, who heads the mammoth bureaucracy charged with carrying out Gorbachev's reforms, told the Congress the state cannot afford to finance what would only be a quick fix.

He revealed the Soviet Union is carrying a \$52-billion debt to the West and is spending \$20 billion a year to buy technology, chemicals, raw materials and food from abroad. After servicing its debt, he said, the nation already is running a \$14.6-billion annual deficit in convertible currencies.

His alternative approach, announced to the new Supreme Soviet legislature on Saturday, was to reorganise the bureaucracy for at least the third time since Gorbachev took power four years ago.

Glasnost triumphs during Congress

Success story

MOSCOW, June 11. (Reuters): Mikhail Gorbachev and his policy of glasnost have emerged triumphant from 14 days that shook the Soviet Union and sent crashing the taboos of decades in what was once the world's most secretive of societies.

As the Congress of People's Deputies closed last Friday night, the Soviet Communist Party leader exchanged a contented if weary smile with an old university friend on the platform.

"He got just what he wanted," said a young intellectual who throughout the two dramatic weeks had been glued to the live television transmissions that brought the proceedings of the new parliament to every corner of the land.

The Congress elected Gorbachev the Soviet Union's first executive president. He did not make totally clear what he wanted from the new body and its 2,250 deputies, many of whom were veterans in the Soviet Union's first genuine electoral contests for almost 70 years.

But what he got was an outspoken debate in which the party's monopoly on power was seriously questioned, the KGB security police was denounced, senior Kremlin figures were called incompetent and he himself was challenged on his private life.

The Soviet Army was angrily challenged over its role in the bloody suppression of a non-violent nationalist protest in Georgia two months ago by none other than that republic's new party chief.

Investigation

Deputies from the three Baltic republics demanded and won creation of a commission to investigate the legality of their incorporation into the Soviet Union in 1940 — which Moscow has always insisted was voluntary and widely popular.

And a gad-fly economist captivated even the most sceptical conservatives — and "old thinkers" in the new Soviet parlance — with a crystal-clear exposition of why Gorbachev's own policies could bring a financial crash.

The only major area of public life that remained unprobed was foreign policy, and it was in this area that the unflappable Gorbachev — who throughout skillfully steered the Congress into something of a middle course — showed a flash of sensitivity.

When former dissident Andrei Sakharov — butt of the conservatives and idol of the liberals — came to the rostrum on the final day to challenge a statement passed earlier on the bloodshed in China, the Kremlin chief sought to stop him.

In the personal struggle for a more human Soviet society during two decades which brought him official opprobrium and six years in exile, Sakharov had constantly urged the need for glasnost or open debate on public issues.

At the Congress, as a deputy from the Academy of Sciences, the frail physicist said Moscow should denounce Beijing for the bloody assault by troops on student and worker "democracy" demonstrators in the Chinese capital just five days earlier.

Ironically, the Congress itself illustrated just how far the Soviet Union had travelled down the road of political reform of which just a taste — had China's leaders offered it — might have resolved the confrontation in Beijing with no blood shed.

Poland gets UK pledge on debt

LONDON, June 11. (Reuters): Poland's leader, General Wojciech Jaruzelski, said today his talks with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher marked a major step in Poland's efforts to strengthen ties with the West.

In an interview with Reuters, Jaruzelski also said he believed his Communist Party was strong enough to regain support despite defeats in last week's historic partly-free elections.

The general, paying the first visit by a Polish leader to Britain since World War Two, said Thatcher had vowed to lead Western support for Poland in solving its mounting foreign debt problem and reviving its economy.

"A very serious step forward has been made," he said. "What I think particularly valuable (is that) she has pledged to support our position with the European Economic Community and generally among other countries of the West," he added.

"This means we can count not just on a British-Polish action but (measures) related to a broader opening of the West to Polish concerns," he said.

Jaruzelski held almost four hours of talks with Thatcher at her Chequers country mansion yesterday, launching a campaign for Western financial backing for his reform policies. In the next two months he meets US President George Bush, West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl and French President Francois Mitterrand.

A government spokesman said Thatcher proposed five aid measures, including support in negotiations with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and with the 18-nation Paris Club of creditor nations. She also announced creation of a fund to train Polish managers and help establishing a market economy.

Thatcher, who just eight years ago denounced Jaruzelski for his military clampdown on the free trade union Solidarity, praised the general for standing by his recent reforms.

"We're delighted... it's the beginning of a new democracy," Thatcher said, smiling as she stood with Jaruzelski on the lawns of Chequers.

The Communist Party suffered crushing defeats at the hands of the relegalised Solidarity movement in the most liberal elections ever in the Soviet bloc. Many leading government officials failed to win a parliamentary seat, though electoral law guaranteed that the communist-led coalition retained power.

Jaruzelski, under pressure to prove he holds the authority needed to push through unpopular austerity policies, said he believed his party could fight its way back.

Asked if he believed the Communist Party, which has ruled Poland for the last 42 years, would surrender power if it were defeated in fully-free elections expected in 1993, he replied: "Anything is possible in the world," but added: "It would be on my part inconceivable for me to declare its capitulation."

Talks on multi-party system

BUDAPEST, June 11. (AP): Negotiations begin next week between the Communist Party and independent opposition groups on moving that Soviet bloc country to a multi-party system and introducing free elections that could break the Marxist hold on political power.

An agreement reached yesterday between representatives of the party and 17 opposition groups sets the start of the talks for June 13. They are to be televised live from the ornate Parliament building.

"This offers the hope of a way out of the dead-end Hungarian society is in, and the hope that we may arrive at free elections which will open the way to a new democratic Hungary," Peter Toelgyessy, representing the opposition groups, said.

Gyorgy Fejtő, secretary of the ruling communist Hungarian Socialist Workers Party, called the agreement "an important milestone."

The agreement, which was signed by representatives of 17 groups that are to take part in the forum, followed months of negotiations between the party and the opposition on the content and structure of the talks.

The negotiations are to be three-sided, with nine of the chief independent opposition groups representing a united front in what they call the opposition round table.

US Delta 2 rocket places \$65 million military navigation satellite into orbit

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida, June 11. (UPI): An Air Force Delta 2 rocket successfully boosted a \$65 million military navigation satellite into orbit yesterday, ending a string of five frustrating launch delays in 21 days because of bad weather and technical glitches.

The 126-foot (38.5m), blue-and-white rocket thundered to life at 6:30 pm EDT (2230 GMT) and vaulted away from launch pad 17A at the Cape Canaveral Air Force station, streaking through a blue afternoon sky and thrilling thousands of spectators along area beaches and highways.

Equipped with nine strap-on solid-fuel boosters for extra power, the \$30 million rocket majestically arced east over the Atlantic Ocean, leaving a churning cloud of billowing exhaust in its wake.

Mounted in rocket's nose cone was a \$65 million global positioning system navigation satellite, the second in a planned constellation of 21 such space beacons.

About 25 minutes after blastoff, the 3,675-pound (1,700 kg) solar-powered satellite was safely ejected into its planned, elliptical "transfer orbit." It all goes well, an on-board solid-fuel rocket motor will fire

next week to put the satellite in a circular 12-hour orbit 12,500 miles (20,100 km) up.

"This is Air Force Delta launch control at T-plus 25 minutes and 20 seconds," said Lieut Col Ron Rand, an Air Force spokesman. "At 24 minutes and 47 seconds we had a normal spacecraft separation. Everything appears to have gone extremely well with today's launch."

Blastoff originally was scheduled for May 20 but bad weather caused three postponements in a row and a fourth launch try May 24 was "scrubbed" at the last instant when the rocket's main engine liquid

oxygen fuel valve failed to open on computer command as the countdown hit zero.

While engineers were unable to figure out what caused the dramatic launch abort, the valve and other equipment were replaced. Even so, the rocket's fifth launch try ended in failure on Friday when more bad weather swept over the cape as the countdown ticked into its final stages.

The Air Force was under pressure to get the Delta 2 and its GPS payload off the pad to free tracking equipment for the debut flight of a powerful Titan 4 rocket.

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Flashback

In November 1987, this Pakistani woman, Shahida Parveen was sentenced to death by stoning after being convicted of adultery. The woman was spared after being acquitted of the charge in August 1988. Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto has pledged to press for repeal of the Islamic law which imposes harsh punishment for moral offences.

On Saturday, six people were sentenced to death on adultery charges. The harsh sentence could prove to be a test of Benazir's ability to challenge her sizeable right-wing opposition which has vowed to block any government move against the Islamic ordinances.

More violence in S. Africa seen

Indian President warns

DAR ES SALAAM, June 11, (AP): India's President flew today to northern Tanzania for a night of wild game viewing after warning of increased violence in South Africa if dialogue doesn't lead to political reform.

"If political reform cannot be brought about by dialogue and negotiations, it will have to be achieved by armed struggle and the inevitable violence that it would entail," Ramaswami Venkataraman said.

He spoke at a banquet hosted last evening in his honour by Tanzania's President Ali Hassan Mwinyi.

Earlier, Venkataraman and Mwinyi discussed bilateral, Southern African, and international issues at the presidential residence overlooking the Indian Ocean.

There are several groups opposed to South Africa's apartheid policy of racial discrimination. Some of them, like the African National Congress, have taken up arms against the government.

Apartheid also affects an estimated 900,000 descendants of Indians who originally went to South Africa to work in sugar plantations.

Venkataraman, however, was optimistic apartheid would come to an end, saying, "We are confident that victory is near at hand."

The 79-year-old Indian leader, accompanied by his wife, Janaki, arrived yesterday from neighbouring Zambia, where he stayed for two days. Before that he visited Zimbabwe for three days.

Tanzania, Zimbabwe and Zambia are members of the front-line states — African nations nearest to South Africa and mostly involved with the activities of groups fighting South Africa. The other front-line states are Mozambique, Botswana and Angola.

The Venkataramans were staying overnight at the Seren-



Venkataraman

geti National Park before returning to Dar es Salaam and onward to India tomorrow. Serengeti is famous world-wide for its variety of wild animals.

The first Khaddafi International Human Rights prize has been awarded to Nelson Mandela, the jailed South African anti-apartheid leader, the Libyan news agency JANA reported today.

The award was presented in Tripoli last night to Mandela's daughter Zenani. JANA said in a report monitored in Rome.

Zenani was quoted as telling Libyan radio that the prize was "a further impetus for all freedom fighters."

Her father has been in jail for more than two decades for leading the fight against South Africa's racial segregation system.

The winner of the prize, named after Libyan leader Moammar Khaddafi, was chosen by an "international people's committee," JANA said, without identifying its members.

Tamil-Lanka talks to reopen

COLOMBO, June 11, (KUNA): The second round of talks between the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and the Sri Lanka government is expected to resume on Wednesday, government sources said today.

LTTE mentor and political adviser Dr. Anton Balasingham and politburo member Lawrence Thilakar have arrived from London.

The second round, which according to officials will be a more intense political discussion on LTTE demands for greater autonomy for the Tamils in the north and east is likely to be attended by Sathasivam Krishnakumar alias Kittu, former Tiger commander in Jaffna and now member of the LTTE political wing.

Government sources said the second phase of talks will take place on June 14 if Kittu and other members of the LTTE delegation could be air-lifted to Colombo from their northern guerrilla hide-outs in the deep jungles of Vavuniya and Mullaitivu on time.

The first round was held on May 4 following a government invitation to the LTTE for discussions on their demands. Five days of negotiations took place in which, as Foreign Minister Ranjan Wijeyeratne said, the government delegation was only an intent listener.

The LTTE delegation led by Balasingham did the talking. Wijeyeratne said. Besides the official dialogue or the monologue with the government ministerial team, LTTE also met several ministers individually for informal talks official sources said.

Wednesday's talks they said will be more formal and the LTTE is expected to put forward their proposals after the recess in which the Tiger delegation would have had consultations with their leader Velupillai Prabhakaran.

After the first round Dr. Balasingham left for London on May 30 and other LTTE members returned to the jungle hide-outs.

Meanwhile, the Sri Lanka government has assured full protection to Indian nationals, banks and other establishments in the face of a serious threat from the southern Sinhalese radical movement the Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna (JVP).

The police chief said stern action will be taken against anyone trying to disrupt law and order in the country.

In Colombo and elsewhere parents and school heads met today to decide whether schools should be opened tomorrow after a two-day closure last week prompted by violence unleashed by students demanding the withdrawal of the Indian peace-keeping force.

Official sources said that in the north and east Chief Minister Vitharajah Perumal of the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF) has asked all schools to open tomorrow.

The government has allowed other schools to decide on their own whether to re-open or not in their respective areas.

Unidentified assailants today gunned down police inspector Dharmasiri Gnanatileka, officer in charge of the special unit of criminal investigations Koluwe.

■ The Sri Lanka Muslim Congress (SLMC) has said it wants to see "that our country be rid of the presence of any foreign forces."

KOTTAYAM, June 11: Alcoholism, stark poverty and human infirmity stand between Kottayam town in Kerala and the Guinness Book of World Records.

The "100 (one hundred) per cent literacy in 100 (one hundred) days" campaign was conceived by the Kottayam Municipality and the National Service Scheme (NSS) of the Mahatma Gandhi University here to propel the most literate town in India into the Guinness Book by being the first in the world to banish illiteracy.

Launched with much fanfare coinciding with the Nehru centenary mass run on March four, the campaign sought to impart in just 75 teaching hours functional literacy to all the illiterates in the town — sufficient knowledge of the alphabets to read and write common words and numerals from one to 100.

With the D-day (June 12) tomorrow, field workers involved in "People's Education and Literacy Campaign, Kottayam" (PELCK) privately admit that the target had been a little too ambitious though the higher-ups continue to talk of success.

On paper, the campaign does not suffer from any infirmity. The town had for long been considered as Kerala's literary capital with its large number of educational institutions and publishing houses. About 400,000 copies of newspapers a day and three million copies of magazines a week are published from the town.

According to a 1981 survey, the town's literacy rate was 86 per cent. Since children below the age of five are also considered illiterates in census calculations the actual literacy rate is 97 per cent with only a little more than 2,000 of the town's population of 70,000 being illiterates.

An army of 1,024 teachers, students, social workers and women activists were specially trained over a period of one year to draw the 2,000-odd illiterates into the world of letters. The idea was to teach them in small groups of five or six in make-shift classrooms in their own neighbourhoods and in some cases, individually in their homes.

A series of seminars, conferences and study classes preceded the campaign and the training

Magic of the written word

Kerala wiping out illiteracy

programme for the field workers included a three-week crash course at the Madurai-based Gandhigram Rural University. The teaching methods were decided on a ward basis with the councillors of all the 32 municipal wards actively associated with the campaign.

But the path of enlightenment is often paved with thorns. Take the case of Kamalakshi — it was her husband who enrolled her in the class and it was the same man who returned a couple of hours later to give her a trashing for daring to learn. The volunteer teacher, Geetha, too received a few bruises in the process. The reason: a few pags of country liquor had altered his views on women's education.

Kamalakshi, however, was determined to learn and has, by now, gained a commendable mastery of the alphabets. "And I am equally determined to teach," says Geetha who philosophically brushes away the few blows she received as merely occupational hazards.

In another ward, seven-year-old Faith just cannot understand why grandma, with all her experience of life, cannot ever write her own name, something she herself could do with ease. So the girl is all giggles when the 80-year-old Mariam purses her toothless lips and wiles her fingers to grasp the chalk in an obviously painful effort to render her name on the slate.

Mariam, too, is determined to learn for she has a noble dream — a true Christian, she would like to read the Bible on her own before making eternal peace with God. Volunteer teacher Ponnamma Joseph is a personification of patience as she helps the grand-dame in her arduous task but for some people it is just too late to learn.

For 35-year-old Krishnankutty, the motivation is purely material. A bunk shop owner, he wants to maintain a written account of his creditors and the amount they owe him. Not that he has ever found it a problem to keep his books. He has worked out an ingenious code, based on the nicknames of his customers, which he sketches in his book. "All the people here have nicknames," he says. And if they do not, he merely creates one to suit his purpose. But to be really able to read and write would make him look more important,

he says. Krishnankutty, who has no qualms in seeking the help of his customers when he encounters any problems with the alphabets, is making good progress and has already mastered a few words, besides his name and that of his wife, Sarassamma.

The campaign has raised a lot of euphoria, goading hundreds of illiterates to fight their fatigue and squat over kerosene lamps to experience the magic of the written word. It

has almost become a mass movement with every other individual and welfare agency like the Kerala Association for Non-Farmal Education and Development (KANFED), the Centre for Adult Continuing and Extension Education (CAEE) and the Shramik Vidyapith actively involved in it.

The problem is not with the majority but with the one-in-a-hundred minority who sees no use for the written word and who could care less whether the town succeeds or not in carving for itself a niche in the Guinness Book. And that is what the campaign planners had overlooked — being a purely voluntary effort, the campaign has no component to motivate disinterested illiterates.

Ravi, an agricultural labourer, goes for work soon after he gets up from his mat in the morning and makes straight for the attack shop with his wages in the evening. Literacy classes are definitely not for him. A normally reticent person, he will treat you to a glimpse of his philosophy if you happen to run into him in the shop. "I have learnt more wisdom here than all those kids could teach me in their classes."

The prospect of 100 per cent literacy has been further bleakened by the inability of the very old to retain what they have been taught and the reluctance of a small section of the migrant Tamil population to learn an alien tongue.

The dums have the highest number of illiterates and even NSS volunteers dread to

read into that world where personal rivalries often end up in slanging matches and fistcuffs. In such cases the campaign flag is kept flying by the educated among the slum-dwellers themselves. One such volunteer is Indu, who loves the job but dreads the stinging remarks her women neighbours who mince no words in calling her a show-off.

Adult students from the slums come to class after a long day's work at construction sites or doing odd jobs. It is no easy task for the volunteers to motivate them and the more ingenious among them have on occasions resorted to the carrot and stick policy.

A mother of seven told NSS volunteers she had no time for letters as she had to do all the household work and there was not even anyone around to buy her *murukkan* (betel nut). The next morning the volunteers presented themselves at her house with some *murukkas*. The lady fell for the bait and allowed herself to be initiated into the world of letters. She continues to be taught to this day but it costs the volunteers a *murukkan* a day.

Political rivalries have also on occasions threatened the campaign. A woman in ward 14 reportedly had to stop learning after her son, a Marxist worker, objected to a Congress (I) sympathiser teaching her. There have also been allegations of ward councillors, in charge of campaign implementation at the local level, giving a political colour to the teaching process.

Volunteers say it is those above 60 who are the most difficult to rope in. Some grandmothers even went to the extent of complaining of giddiness and vomiting sensation at the thought of learning the alphabets. "What do we gain by learning to read and write," is a common question the older among the illiterates pose, said NSS volunteer M. T. Suman.

The job of the volunteers is made all the more difficult as they are not provided with proper tools and have to improvise their teaching techniques in spite of the training they have been given. The students are provided with KANFED's literacy kit consisting of a notebook, a pencil and two textbooks. (Third Eye feature)

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Solar cookers a hot item

NEW DELHI, June 11, (AP): Indians are being urged to cook everything under the sun as part of a campaign to promote solar power and save other fuels.

The focus of the campaign is an oven that looks like a suitcase and runs off the sun. The solar cookers are "100 per cent indigenous" and suited for a country like India, an Energy Ministry official said.

At a government-sponsored exhibition of solar devices earlier this month in New Delhi, vendors reported wide interest and high sale of solar cookers than previously recorded in shops.

"People are so excited about this thing. I have already sold 25 pieces," Ravi Bhushan Sinha said as he tore off a sales bill for Pratibha Gupta.

The cookers, described by Mrs Gupta as "so convenient and no hassles," are the antithesis of the fast-cooking microwave ovens popular in the industrialised world. The solar-powered devices take four to six hours to cook a meal for a family of four — and they never burn it.

"I can put dal (lentils) and rice in it before going for work, and the food is cooked and hot when I return," said Mrs Gupta, a clerical worker who tried her uncle's solar cooker before buying two for her own family.

The Department of Non-conventional Energy Sources, in its 1989 annual report, said more than 110,000 solar cookers have been sold nation-wide since 1982, when the government decided to back their manufacture.

The number may be small for this nation of 880 million people, but proponents believe the cookers have a promising future.

The Energy Ministry official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, noted that conventional fuels like liquefied petroleum gas, wood and kerosene are too expensive for most Indians.

Electricity is rarely used for cooking in India. The most common fuel — in urban shantytowns as well as in villages — is cow dung. The dried manure patties emit thick smoke that leaves the cook coughing and watery-eyed.

About 70 per cent of India's people live in villages, and their annual per capita income is less than the nation-wide average of \$280.

"If you consider all this, solar cookers are so much better. Of course, they operate only in sun heat, but India certainly does not lack that," the Energy Ministry official said.

Although India's climatic conditions range from tundra to tropical, almost every region receives virtually year-round sunshine.

Cooking everything under the sun

Cut expenses, says Rashed

Public sector wages now KD 1 billion

MINISTER of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Al Rashed has warned of the consequences of major expenditure on the first chapter of the state budget, (payments and wages) which has reached KD1 billion. He said in his meeting with senior officials of the public sector that officials in the state departments should be aware of this expense and solve it by guiding expenditure wisely and aim for reductions if possible.

Minister Rashed pointed out that public services should be looked upon as means to serve citizens and that officials should apply policies and plans to do more for the welfare of citizens and to help them solve their problems.

He added that staff training is absolutely essential to meet the requirements of society and to qualify Kuwaiti cadres.

Incentives
The Civil Service Law includes incentives for public servants like annual allowances, promotions and incentive awards. Rashed said and added that, the law also includes penalties like suspension or promotion or allowances or deduction of payments. He added that the state is proud of its administrative court that preserves and protects rights of public servants.

Rashed pointed out that ten years after the issuance of the Civil Service Law various questions on the practical application of this law should be studied:



Rashed Al Rashed

- The policies of appointment and employment in the public sector.
- Efficiency evaluation system of public servants.
- Regular promotions.
- Annual vacations.
- The working period and age of retirement for Kuwaiti servants.

Efforts
Rashed added that studies and researches have been made on these questions and the Civil Service Council is still studying the best options. He added that the Ministry of Planning and Civil Service Commission have co-ordinated their efforts to include administrative development projects in programmes for developing the performance of the Five Year Plan 1990/1991-94/1995. The plan is expected to include the following:
— Developing of service and facilitating work procedures.

- Programmes of training and qualifying public servants.
- Reconsideration of organisational structures.
- Classification of employment.
- Changing combination of manpower (inputs-outputs).
- Developing workers systems.
- Developing the systems of administrative information.
- General development programmes.

Task
Rashed said that developing administrative staff is a continuous task and that development can be achieved only by team effort. He added that the payments and wages budget of the public sector takes up a major part of the state budget. The continuation of this situation is unreasonable.

He pointed out the importance of holding regular meetings among senior officials in the government departments to discuss problems and proposals that would develop administrative staff.

Minister Rashed said that more attention must be paid to planning committees at each ministry and asked all senior officials to support planning staff. He also called for the use of modern technological methods in preserving information and available data. The ministries should abide by the new regulations of scholarships and study holidays given for the public sector, he said.

Private sector to construct NHA's South Qurain project

THE acting Director General of the National Housing Authority Ali Al Fouzan has said that the NHA has finished planning a whole residential sector in South Qurain comprising 900 housing units to be turned over for construction to private contractors.

He told KUNA that the involvement of the private sector in construction projects undertaken by the NHA will actively contribute to national revitalisation of the local economy and help the NHA speed up construction of its various housing projects.

Fouzan added that special studies had been conducted on the private sector's contribution to NHA projects, and a report on the outcome of these studies was prepared and submitted for consideration and endorsement to the Council of Ministers.

Freedom
He pointed out that the NHA's distribution of housing plots to citizens and granting them the freedom to decide how to design and build their houses through government funding offered by the Credit and Saving Bank was but one aspect of the NHA's encouragement of private sector's contribution to the construction of NHA project.

The NHA has already allocated 30 housing plots in sector H in the Qurain housing project.

The delay in the distribution of the Sabah Al Salem housing plots to citizens was caused because of faulty time estimation by constructing contractor and that the NHA was currently co-ordinating with the contractors to finish the housing plot sector in order to be able to distribute the plots among citizens, Fouzan said.

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Safat, Kuwait or fax your questions on Fax No. 4847495. If you have any doubts, please call 4813566 ext 285 between 12 noon and 6 pm.



I DRAW a salary of KD. 150. In my social affairs papers, my salary is mentioned as KD. 175. Since I have signed for KD. 150 at the end of each month, can I claim the balance for my indemnity.

Name withheld.
WHAT is mentioned in the social affairs paper does not matter. One must depend on the actual payment agreed between an employee and employer. But, if the sum of KD. 175 is mentioned in your contract and if the employer agreed to pay but is paying less than that, you can file a case against the employer to get the difference between the two salaries. If it is not mentioned in the contract, you cannot make any claims.

I'M having difficulty in making my Civil ID card and getting a transfer of residence. I've been in Kuwait from 1978. My husband, who came to Kuwait as a driver, is also in trouble because his company does not want to make his Civil ID card and driving licence. When my husband was hired, they didn't pay for his air ticket to come to Kuwait. My husband and I both work for the same employer. I was working in the company on Visa No. 20. Recently, we were both asked to "stay at home," now, I don't know what they'll do.

L.J.P.
YOU can take legal action against your employer. According to labour law, as long as you were working in that company or office you're entitled to get all the benefits.

For the Civil Card, you must immediately contact an official at Public Authority for Civil Information (PACI), which issues the cards. You must meet an official and inform him that the employer is refusing to make the card; they can help you and call the employer and talk to him. If the PACI officials refuse to help you, then, you must take up the matter with the Social Affairs Ministry. If this fails, you can contact the police station about the matter. But you must make sure that the problem is brought to the attention of the authorities.

If they didn't pay for the ticket, you cannot ask for it unless they promised to pay but didn't.

AN employer keeps the passport of his employee. Now one employee who has been working for this employer for over three years wishes to resign in order to take a new job in Kuwait. Is the employer able to cancel his work permit as he is holding the employee's passport and thus deny the employee the possibility of transfer of work permit to a new employer?

Y.S.
AN employer can cancel a visa, but he has to give notice of 15 days or notice for the duration mentioned in the contract between employee and employer.

If an employee's visa is cancelled by his employer, then the employer must pay the air ticket. You can approach the Ministry of Social Affairs to seek a transfer of residence, provided your new employer is prepared to give a visa.

I'M working in a private company since 1982. When granting vacation leave, my company gives 21 days salary to those employees who have completed five years and 14 days pay to those who have not completed five years. Please clarify.

A.S. Rahim
ACCORDING to the law, an employee is entitled to get 14 working days for the first five years and 21 working days after completing five years service. If it is mentioned differently in the contract, then the contract must be followed.

I WAS locally hired by a company and worked for three years. I resigned and joined a new company. My previous employer does not want to pay service dues saying they are not entitled to pay anything. Are they right?

Seby Fernandes
ARTICLE 56 of the labour law stipulates that an employee is not entitled to get any benefits if he resigns voluntarily. Your company is right.

I'VE been residing in Kuwait since my birth. I am 23 years old. I changed my dependent visa to working visa in October 1985 and have been working with the same employer. Recently, I was offered a better job with a travel agency. A national airline has promised to hire me from September 1989. Can I change my sponsorship to the travel agency and then to the national airline? I've never travelled outside Kuwait, not even to visit my home country, Pakistan. Please advise.

Name withheld.
ACCORDING to Article 17, as long as you've been in Kuwait for more than 10 years you have the right to transfer your residence. My advice to you is to wait until September to seek a transfer to avoid any future problems when you can take a job with the national airline. Waiting for three months won't make much difference.

I'M a Pakistani national, born in Kuwait on Feb 26, 1966, and have been residing in Kuwait. I'm presently working as a manager of a travel agency in Kuwait. I would like to apply for Kuwaiti nationality. What documents are required and whom should I contact. My father has been a resident of Kuwait since 1948.

F. Sadiq
THE issue of granting nationality is the prerogative of the government of Kuwait. However, if you wish to apply, you must approach the Department of Immigration, and get an application for Kuwaiti nationality. This application must be duly filled, giving all particulars and documentary evidence; it will be examined by the Minister of Interior, who will look into the matter. It is a government matter and excluded from the Kuwaiti law; a court cannot hear any case of nationality. The

Interior Minister examines such applications once a year; you must provide all documentary evidence, explaining why you want to get Kuwaiti nationality.

MY brother was promised a release in May, after completing three years service. Now, unfortunately, he can't get a release because the employer wants him to forego his dues.

Cesar Lacamilao
As my brother wants to get the end of service benefits, he has refused to comply by the employer's request. Please advise.

YOU can go to the Social Affairs Ministry and explain his case to the investigators; they can call the employer to finalise the matter. I'm sure the ministry can handle the matter; if they can't they'll advise you to go to court to settle the dispute.

I'M planning to take my first vacation since 1985. My boss tells me that I have to bear the cost of my air ticket. I was not hired locally, and my contract was recently renewed. My English and Arabic contract does not state that I'm entitled to such benefits? Are all workers, hired outside Kuwait, entitled to air fare?

Our contract was not renewed but our residence visas were renewed. Also, if I resign, can I get my unpaid vacation leave dues? Will the company bear the cost of repatriating me? In case I want to find another job, will they give me a release? Will I have to go back home to get a new NOC?

JOHN S.
ACCORDING to Kuwaiti law you can get 14 working days paid leave for the first five years; and you're entitled to 21 days paid leave after completing five years service, unless otherwise mentioned in the contract. If it is more than 21 days, you must follow the contract. You are entitled to get your leave every year, but the timing must be decided by you and employer according to the work load.

If your employer is willing to give you accumulated leave, for example for three years, you can take it. If he doesn't accept your absence for a long period, you can't avail of accumulated leave but you can ask him to pay for the rest of the vacation.

If it is not mentioned in the contract, you are not entitled to get a ticket. Only in the case of a final cancellation of visa, an employer is obliged to bear the cost of repatriation.

A contract is automatically renewed after two years, it is not necessary for such renewal to be in writing, and the same conditions will apply; when it is renewed, it becomes an "unlimited period contract."

If you resign or are terminated, you are entitled to your unpaid vacation dues but you are not entitled to get end of service benefits before completing five years service. But if you are terminated, you'll get full indemnity. If you've been with the same employer for more than three years, you can, in principle, get a release.

I CAME to Kuwait in July 1987 on Visa No 18. I've been working for the same company. Now, MEW is willing to sponsor me and the present employer also agrees to transfer my visa. Is the law applicable to a ministry?

Prasanna Kumar
THE law is applicable to all transfers. According to article 16, you are not entitled to transfer to the MEW because you have not completed three years service.

The only way is to approach the Ministry of Social Affairs, who has a say in such matters. Perhaps, a better alternative would be to enter the country on a new visa.

IF a person is terminated from a company in the private sector after ten years of service for delaying his return (by one week) after vacation, what is he entitled to get? Can he get his settlement according to the contract?

F.H.
AS YOU have been terminated according to article 55, clause C, you are not entitled to get any benefits. Anyone overstaying after vacation can be fired. But you can get the benefits if you have a valid, acceptable, reason proven in a court of law.

The amount of salary depends on the agreement made between the employee and the employer; if the agreed amount is more than the shown in the Social Affairs contract, then you must get the difference between the two salaries.

I CAME to Kuwait in 1981. Presently, I'm employed with a local company since 1987. My assignment ends in July 1989 and I've been forced to search for another job on a ministry project, commencing in July.

Can the private sector residence be transferred to ministry sponsorship? If I get a new visa, will my family's dependent visas be cancelled? Does my family also have to leave Kuwait?

Harish
YOU cannot seek a transfer of residence because you have not completed three years service, and you've lived for under 10 years in Kuwait.

If a new visa is issued, residence of the family is automatically cancelled because a family visa is linked to your residence. In such a situation, you and your family must leave the country. When you return on a new visa, you must get a new dependent visa for them as well.

F.V.E. worked as a dressmaker for one year and 10 months. My salary in the contract is KD 60 per month plus personal necessity and one month's pay by employer for every year of service. Do I have the right to ask the employer for two months paid leave before completing two years service?

Fely M. Moreno, Margarita Lopez.
PLEASE clarify what you mean by "personal necessity" and "one month pay for every year of service". It is not clear what you mean by this, therefore, I'm unable to answer your query.

FROM 1983 to 1984, I was on Visa No 20. In December 1984, I re-entered Kuwait on Visa No 18. I'm still working with the same establishment, and sponsorship. Can I get a release?

M. Anita
YOU can get a release as you've worked with the same employer for more than three years. The sponsor can't force you to leave; in case of a problem, you approach the Ministry of Social Affairs to seek their assistance to get a release.

I'VE BEEN employed in a private company for the last 11 years. My contract expires within four months. I wish to ask my company not to renew my contract as I want to go back to my country.

- 1) Am I entitled to full indemnity?
- 2) Am I entitled to an air ticket?
- 3) If I join another company, will I get a release?

Rina Silveira

(1) IT seems you want to resign. If you resign voluntarily, you're entitled to get half the indemnity according to the labour law.

(2) If you're seeking a final cancellation of visa, you're entitled, according to article 20, to get an air ticket from your employer.

(3) If you decide to join another company, you can, in principle, get a release as you've worked more than 3 years with one employer, and have lived in Kuwait for more than 11 years. If your employer refuses, you can seek assistance from the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour.

I'VE been in Kuwait for six years on Visa No. 18. I've been employed for one year four months. I've been offered a job in the government sector. Can I transfer my residence?

N.D.
YOU cannot seek a transfer as your present employment has been for under three years. Also, you've not lived in Kuwait for more than 10 years. But you can get a new visa, cancel your present visa and re-enter Kuwait.

DOES the Labour Law and Article 16 apply to domestic visa (No. 20) holders? I got my residence in September 1986. Can I seek a transfer in September this year?

J.A.

DOMESTIC visa holders are not covered by the labour law.

In principle, you can seek a transfer in September, as you would have completed three years with your present employer.

I CAME to Kuwait on a domestic visa in 1978. In November, 1984, I had it changed to a work permit (No. 18). I've been working in a private transport company, which had given me to sponsorship of another company. In 1987, my visa was transferred to my employer. Now, they've asked me to find another job.

F. D'Souza
YOU can seek a transfer of residence, provided you can prove that you've been in Kuwait for more than 10 years.

I WORKED as a housemaid. Fortunately, I found a sales job. Due to the difficulty of obtaining a new visa, I came back on Visa No. 20, but with a different sponsor this time. Now, I'm in a trading company.

Can I get a new visa or change my visa in Kuwait? Will I be punished if I'm found to be working outside on a Visa No. 20? Did I violate the labour law? I'm confused and afraid. Please help me.

Maria Caber
THERE is no way to change your visa from 20 to 18, but you can get a new visa No. 18, provided someone can sponsor you, and re-enter Kuwait on a new visa.

Actually, you are violating the residence/immigration law, and if the police catch you, you could be deported, with a stamp on your passport saying that you cannot return to Kuwait.

It is advisable to obtain a Visa No. 18 and get your papers in order. As far as your employment is concerned, you're covered by the labour law even though your residence is No. 20, and you're entitled to get all benefits.

MY children are on my passport, having a valid residence upto 1991. My children are studying in India, and have been there for more than a year. Now, I would like to bring them back to Kuwait. Please advise me.

M.J.A.
If anyone stays outside of Kuwait for over six months, their visas are automatically cancelled.

If you want to bring them back, you must obtain new dependent visas for them, provided you qualify for family visas.

If you had obtained permission from the immigration department that your children are studying overseas, you could get an exemption for them to stay outside Kuwait for more than six months.

I CAME to Kuwait in 1980 on a domestic visa. In August 1986, my company changed it to visa No. 18. In January this year, I went on medical leave for two months. I returned one month 15 days late, and my company's management told me I don't have a job. Can I get a transfer? If I went back, what are the benefits I'm entitled to?

P. Kar M.
If you can prove absence from your job was due to a valid, medical reason, and have documentary evidence, you can get the benefits by filing a case; the court will decide if the reason for the delay is acceptable or not. After this matter is settled, as long as you can prove the old company is the same as the new one, you can seek a transfer to get a new visa.

If you want to go back to India, the company will cancel the visa and give you a ticket; and you'll get the end of service benefits decided by the court.

Loncar's Kuwait visit prelude to NAM Summit

KUWAIT, June 11, (KUNA): A Yugoslav official spokesman said today that the visit of Yugoslav Foreign Minister Budimir Loncar to Kuwait last month was part of Yugoslavia's preparations for the Non-Aligned Summit scheduled to be held in Belgrade next September.

Spokesman Ivan Fikal, in an interview with a local daily said that there are several issues that Yugoslavia wants to discuss during the summit.

One of the goals that Yugoslavia intends to achieve is to make the Non-Aligned Movement more flexible and open to other non-member countries.

Yugoslavia is one of the founders of the Non-Aligned Movement that groups 101 countries.

On the visit of Loncar to Kuwait Fikal said that the Yugoslav minister's visit centred on various issues including bilateral relations. "Yugoslavia found that Kuwait was re-

sponsive to expanding economic relations," the spokesman said.

We value Kuwait's stance in trying to strengthen economic ties with Yugoslavia adding that the Kuwaiti press is one of the most widely circulated papers in Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavia is now preparing the Agenda of the forthcoming Belgrade Summit, the spokesman said adding that the agenda will be simple and clear but will give special significance to major issues.



Best Wishes to all Filipinos and to the Philippine Government!

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Happy occasion for Filipinos Stand proud and free

ON June 12, 1898, a new flag was unfurled amidst the cry of "Independence." We had come from a war that was a long trek towards what, to our mind, was the road to freedom from colonisation, domination and, in the same spirit was sweeping over Europe in the late 18th and early 19th centuries, a declaration of independence from monarchy.

But that was to be a short-lived affair with freedom. For thirty five years, the flag was furled and forgotten, flying at times only as a secondary pennant to the flag of another mother country.

We fought a war not of our own making, fighting on and creating battlefronts even when our master had surrendered our land. And it was to be only on July 4, 1946, that the pennant was again to become our flag, flying true with every wave of the east wind.

But as we looked at the vast expanse of the sea of democracy, casting forth our net and bringing in economic and political freedoms, storm clouds gathered on December 30, 1965. The torrential rains of dictatorship were to pour over our land. Demagoguery and dictatorship were to be the rulers in our land for the next twenty years.

Slowly, painfully and even over the bodies of the disappeared, the mutilated, the tortured and the murdered, we went on and up to our own Golgotha. But as we reached the apex of our Calvary, what we were to see were the millions of Filipinos holding aloft the tricolour with the sun and the stars and, in one voice we shouted. The dictator must go!

And so we went. For four years we took our tentative steps, re-building our political houses, but even as government was doing this, it was also laying the foundation for our economic house. Today, let us begin to make this house work, and work proud and free, defending our domain like Lapu-Lapu and Urdja, Diego and Gabriela Silang, Dagohoy and Bonifacio, and like Pepe Diokao and Ninoy Aquino.

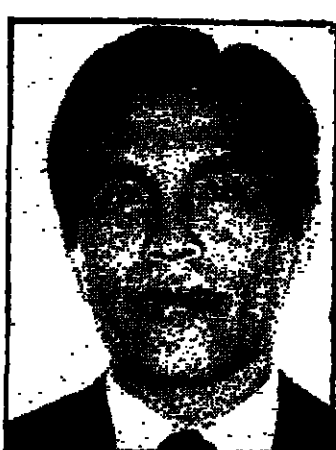
Thus, wherever you are, be proud of this heritage and be assured that you have every right to unfurl our flag on whichever land you stand on, because we have earned that right to stand proud and free among the community of nations and peoples. Look around you now. People struggling to be free have skewed the gun in favour of flowers and prayers. They no longer hide in hills but march and create their own EDSA — in Poland, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, in Beijing, Budapest and Belgrade. Monolithic governments whether left wing or right wing, whether nominally democratic or having its own civil war, as in Beirut and Phnom Penh, soldiers and civilians are saying to each other — let us forget war and negotiate in peace.

We, the Filipino people, have shown the world a new way to win freedom. Be proud of this but, most of all, be proud to be Filipino. Mabuhay!

Raul S. Manglapus
Secretary for Foreign Affairs



Manglapus



Glang

KAPILKU Community service

ON behalf of KAPILKU officers and members, I take pleasure in greeting my dear Kababayan, friends and the Filipinos in Kuwait on the occasion of the 91st anniversary of Philippine Independence.

I am honoured to have been provided this opportunity to serve the Filipino community, which has over the years become more active and progressive. Hardly a week goes by these days without there being some function or other organised by Filipinos for the betterment of the community. This speaks well for the image of our community, which has been steadily growing over the years — and Insha'Allah, will continue to do. So now that things are looking up in the Gulf.

KAPILKU is continually striving to serve the interests of Filipinos from all walks of life — from those in humble occupations to those more fortunate to be employed in the higher echelons. KAPILKU'S objectives have always been community service and welfare and will continue to be — to provide meaningful programmes, like the ongoing Palarong Pilipino and self-improvement courses.

The Filipino love for sports is rivalled perhaps only by our love for music and culture. And in this respect, KAPILKU gears its activities towards realising the Filipino's love for an interesting and full life, despite our being away from our homeland. The Palaro is one good example of how we seek to help fulfill the aspirations of our promising sportsmen and sportswomen —

But there is also a less glamorous front to KAPILKU, — that of quietly providing a helping hand to the less fortunate members of our community — through fund raising, counselling and care.

The other KAPILKU'S programmes which help our members of the association to feel that they are not away from home are Bayanhan (get together), KAPILKU night, free classes and other social and cultural activities. Discounts for members of KAPILKU is one of the many benefits they are enjoying from the association.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Philippine Embassy who supported us and to all sponsors and participants of this year's Palarong Pilipino, whose valuable contributions have made this year's Palarong the biggest and most colourful and interesting yet.

Our grateful thanks go to all officials of KAPILKU and other organisations — GLASSIK, PRAK, and ECC for their selfless efforts to make this community project a grand success.

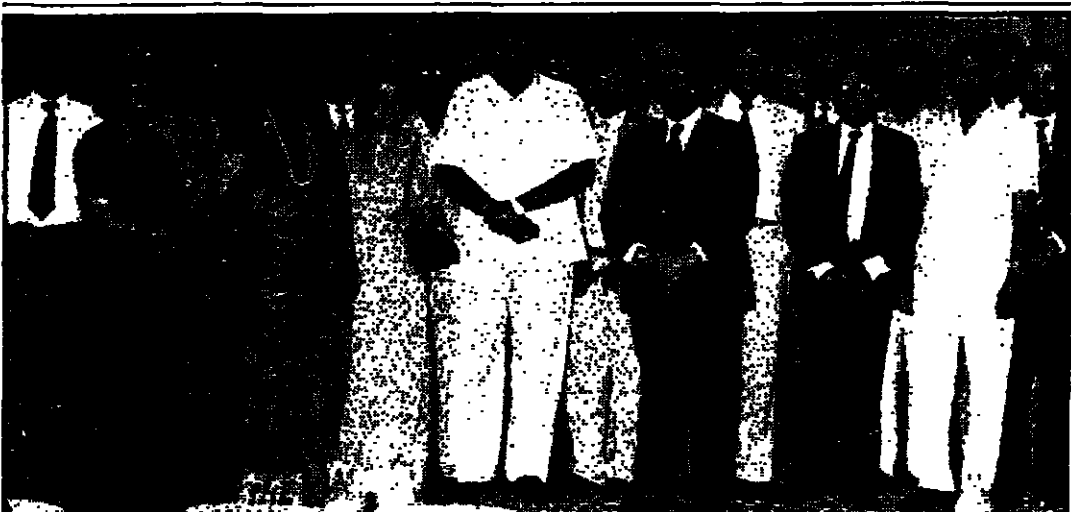
Mabuhayang Pilipinas
Manny Isarito
Kapisanang Pilipino Sa Kuwait
(KAPILKU) President '89

TODAY is a happy occasion for all of us Filipinos as we pause to recall the battles waged by our ancestors to gain what we now cherish among us — freedom from foreign oppression. But today is also a good time to reflect on the struggle and realise that it did not end on that glorious day of June 12, 1898. It is important to remember that this gift of freedom is a very fragile and delicate element. We should all make a deliberate effort to remain vigilant so that this freedom could not slip away from our hands. And it is not only freedom from foreign aggression that we should guard against. We must carry on the fight to guard against undesirable

elements so that we may continue to enjoy:
Freedom from tyranny and deception;
Freedom from ignorance;
Freedom from poverty, want, and fear;
Freedom from exploitation and manipulation; and
Freedom to enjoy all the good things life has to offer within reasonable limits.

It is only when each and everyone of us re-dedicate himself to this commitment that we can truly say we deserve the freedom for which our forefathers gave up their lives.

Almasan C. Glang
Philippine Embassy, Kuwait



Farewell to Jha

NRI Investors Forum Kuwait gave a grand farewell party to N.N. Jha, the Indian Ambassador, and Mrs. Jha, on June 9th at the Holiday Inn. C.S.S. Khanpuri, chairman of the NRI Forum, in his farewell speech recalled the various achievements of the community during Jha's tenure in Kuwait. Jha, who is the patron of the Forum, had always showed great personal interest in the activities of the Forum and directly encouraged its formation 3-1/2 years ago. Khanpuri assured Jha that the Forum will continue to serve the community on the broad guide-lines initiated by him, and would always remain grateful to him for his patronage. Khanpuri told the audience, which included a high-powered delegation from the Indian Ministry of Finance and SBI Capital Markets Ltd., that the Indian community in Kuwait was much better socially organised and more confident now than it was ever before.

The Forum presented a memento to the ambassador as a mark of his outstanding contribution to the welfare of the Indian community, and of the Forum in particular. The farewell-mementos were also presented to B.S. Bisnoi, the outgoing first secretary of the embassy and P.S. Mankad of Oriental who are also leaving Kuwait shortly.

Sabah briefs cabinet on GCC meeting

New OPEC quota issue discussed among others

KUWAIT, June 11, (KUNA): Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed has briefed the cabinet on the outcome of the GCC ministerial meetings, held in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia recently, Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Rashed Al Rashed said following the cabinet's weekly regular session today.

At the outset of the session, chaired by HH the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, the Cabinet

reviewed the two messages recently received by HH the Amir from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and Sudanese Premier Sadiq Al Mahdi, which touched on the outcome of the GCC ministerial meetings.

Rashed added that the Cabinet also reviewed last week's visit by Palestine's President Yasser Arafat, as HH the Crown Prince and Premier briefed the council on the Kuwait-Palestinian talks which centred on the outcome of the Casablanca summit, the Palestinian uprising and

other Arab and international developments.

The cabinet expressed its deep satisfaction over the friendly atmosphere of the talks.

Iran

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Saoud Al Osaimi reported to the cabinet on his trip to Tehran last week, as the personal representative of HH the Amir at the funeral of late Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini. During his stay, Osaimi met with President

Ali Khamenei and Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati.

Finance Minister Jassem Al Khorafi briefed the council on talks with his Nepalese counterpart Bharat Bahadur Pradhan, during the latter's recent visit to the country.

For his part, Khorafi also acquainted the council with the 22nd meeting of the GCC Economic and Finance co-operation committee, held in Riyadh last week.

The cabinet listened to a report

from Defence Minister Sheikh Nawaf Al Ahmed on last week's talks with his Sudanese counterpart Major-General Mubarak Othman Rahman.

OPEC

Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Al Khalifah Al Athbi briefed the ministers on OPEC's 85th Ministerial Council Meeting, held in Vienna last week. He gave a detailed report on the agreement realised to up the organisation's production ceiling.

Gold inspectors find 15 cheating incidents

KUWAIT'S gold authorities are well aware of the Arab penchant for gold and keep an ever-watchful eye to ensure that all purchasers of this commodity are given an honest deal.

The continued supervision by Kuwaiti gold inspectors has resulted in over 15 cheating incidents being registered against several vendors in the local gold market during the past few months. These generally involve some alterations on gold stamps and not adhering to the gold specifications stipulated.

Authorities revealed that five men, three brothers, one gold auctioneer and the owner of the gold shop were recently taken into custody.

Investigations revealed that the three brothers and the auctioneer go around gold shops purchasing small pieces of gold. These are then taken to their workshop located in Jeleeb Shuyookh and converted into gold jewellery which are in turn sold back in the market with unauthorised stamps.

Illegal

The court sentenced the three brothers and the auctioneer to six months imprisonment with hard labour to be followed by deportation. The owner of the gold

shop was acquitted due to lack of convincing evidence.

Inspection teams revealed that most illegal operations occur at small workshops located in remote areas and that such alterations are conducted by professional goldsmiths which are hard to detect by the general public. But, experts or inspectors from the Consumers Protection Department are well aware of the nuances of these underhand goldsmiths which lead to their arrest.

This high standard of expertise contributed to the discovery of the illegal network of goldsmiths apprehended as explained above. The inspector's vigilant eye was able to discern some irregularity in gold jewellery stamped as 21 karat gold — which on investigation turned out to be less than the gold specifications.

Officials of the Consumers Protection Department have called on all those purchasing gold items to ensure that they have a valid receipt for all purchases, to maintain these receipts, to approach the authorities with these receipts in the eventuality they have any doubts as to their authenticity and to keep a record of such receipts in the event these are to be disposed.

Police beat

Student stabs classmate

A STUDENT in the secondary education stage yesterday stabbed his classmate in the abdomen and neck for not helping him to cheat in the exams, a local daily reported.

The daily added that when the accused learnt of his failure in the exams, the suspect allegedly rushed into the mosque where his classmate was performing Asr prayers and stabbed him twice. The victim was rushed to Addan Hospital and is reportedly in critical condition. No further details have been revealed and investigations are underway, the daily added.

Smash and grab at co-op

FINTAS Co-operative Society has been the scene of a smash-and-grab operation in which the booty of cash decamped with from the cashier's till has been estimated at KD1350.

On return from prayers, the cashier noticed that his till had been broken into and reported the theft to the administration.

Investigations by authorities centred on a Jordanian national of 22-years of age. According to some reliable sources, the suspect is a member of the central market staff and is alleged to have broken into the co-operative society.

Making and selling liquor

A THAI citizen identified as Thomas S. was apprehended by Hawalli detectives on a charge of distilling and selling liquor in Kuwait, according to the Interior Ministry's Public Relations Department.

It added that another three defendants were also apprehended at the residence of the accused. They have been identified as two Thais and one Korean. The defendants and the confiscated contraband have been referred to authorities for further investigations.

Gang of seven arrested

A GANG consisting of seven teenagers involved in car thefts, was arrested by the Ahmadi port installations security men. Their ages range from 14-17 years. Six of the youths are Kuwaitis and the seventh is an Iraqi national. They were arrested in Fahahel on Saturday evening while carrying with them equipment used for robbing cars. They were handed over to Fahahel police station for further investigation.

84 juveniles caught

IN KEEPING with the instructions of the Governor of Farwaniyah Sheikh Ahmed Al Humoud Al Sabah relating to the ban of juveniles loitering after midnight and indulging in acts of vandalism and creating public nuisance, patrols of the governorate have caught about 84 juveniles during the last three days.

Their parents had been summoned to sign a pledge of good conduct on behalf of their wayward offspring, according to the Ministry of Interior's Public Relations Department.

The department added that the governor has appealed to parents at the governorate to ensure that their children do not stay out of their residence after midnight.

Airport secure, official assures

'Complain if mishandled'

KUWAIT airport has the best and most reliable security measures, Director of Airport Security, Lt. Col. Faisal Al Yassin announced yesterday. He added that the Kuwait International Airport is well equipped to confront terrorism. He said that the measures applied on personal checking are unique and is "double the measures applied elsewhere but at the same time have no adverse effect on the movement of passengers. He stressed that Kuwait airport has not been the target of any terrorist operation, adding that the state is paying great attention to this vital utility and never fails to supply it with all its requirements.

Mishandling

Yassin announced that the government is currently reviewing the present procedures, and the revision is primarily aimed at facilitating visits by businessmen and others to Kuwait. He said that the airport authorities are also studying a proposal to cancel the use of the departure cards and for simplifying arrival procedures. He added that the collection of departure fees has not created any problem for airport employees. Speaking about expatriates staying in Kuwait but are compelled to stay outside Kuwait for over six months, Yassin stressed that such persons must obtain special permits from the concerned immigration departments.

Talking about the summer rush, Yassin said that the airport authorities are well prepared and

781 additional flights will operate from Kuwait airport this summer. The Ministry of Interior will not condone any mishandling of passengers by any employee. He advised the public to complain in case of any misbehaviour.

He said that there are clear instructions by the minister of interior and other top officials to airport employees and securitymen to behave well with passengers and well-wishers. But he added that the strict supervision to prevent any incident against security, does not mean misbehaviour.

Yassin said that the airport security in normal cases, do not prevent relatives and friends of passengers from entering the airport hall to see them off. But he said that during peak season a rush of passengers and their relatives may cause security risks and obviously securitymen at the airport need to resort to reducing the number of visitors. He added that the airport authorities suffer from this issue as each passenger is usually accompanied by a large number of well-wishers. He appealed to the public to co-operate in this matter with the airport authorities.

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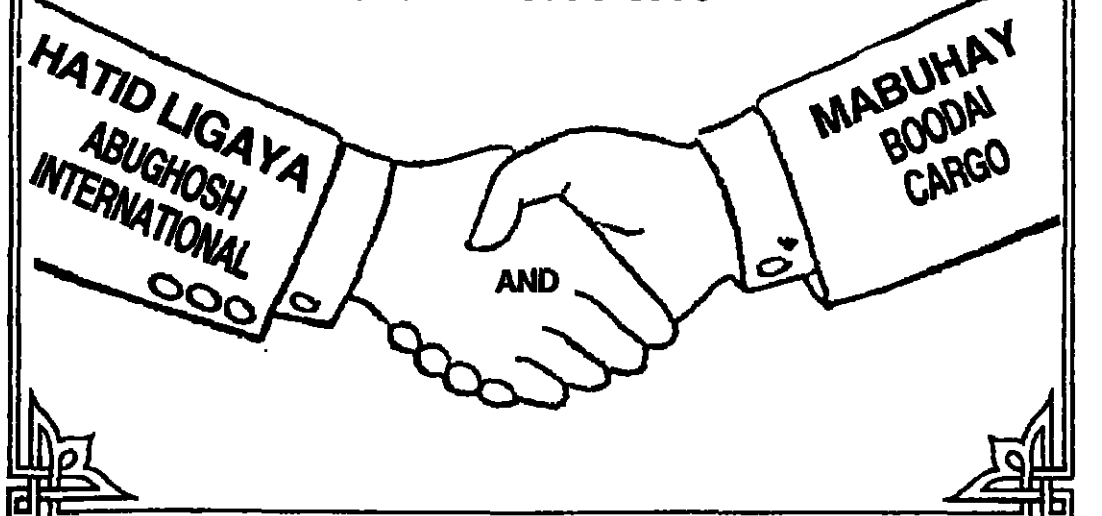
Asked if the passport officials have the right to look at the face of veiled women, Yassin said that in case of suspicion, a policeman is called to conduct the search. Concerning the problem of identical names, he said that

this is a big problem facing the airport authorities, but added that a study is underway to solve it. Concerning the departure of employees to spend their vacations outside Kuwait, he said that the airport authorities do not allow any employee from leaving on a date prior to his leave permit date. But they allow them to leave on the same day even if it was before the end of official working hours. He stressed that residences of expatriates cannot be cancelled at the airport and must be cancelled from the concerned immigration department.

On the subject of passenger planes protection, Yassin said that no securityman is posted on a plane until it passes special training courses. These courses are conducted in Kuwait by foreign experts. The training courses include programmes of ways to deal with passengers, security checks of planes, operating checking equipment and others.

He said that expatriate children born outside Kuwait must first be added to their parents passport (the mother or father) and then a visit visa must be obtained from a Kuwait embassy for the child before coming to Kuwait. About the rush of passengers, particularly arrivals at the airport, Yassin attributed this to the shortage of employees, which is a common phenomenon. But he said that all the other employees work very hard in order to facilitate the movement of passengers.

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and the
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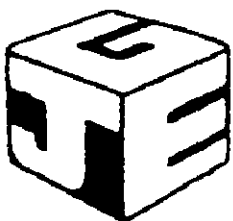
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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

I ALWAYS prefer to believe the best of everybody. It saves so much trouble — Rudyard Kipling, English writer (1865-1936).

Communism: the god that failed?

Western experts analyse

By Arthur Spiegelman

COMMUNISM in 1989 is under siege, with many in the West saying the ideology that once inspired millions is dying, exposed as a god that failed.

Soldiers shoot to kill in Beijing's Tiananmen Square. In Prague, where communism briefly wore a human face, police use truncheons to disperse a protest.

In Moscow, Parliament is told the Soviet Union is headed for economic collapse and ethnic tensions percolate through the Soviet republics.

In Romania, an ageing autocrat redesigns his country, ordering villages uprooted, the centre of Bucharest destroyed. In Yugoslavia, ethnic riots threaten the country's survival.

In Poland, unopposed communist candidates are defeated at the polls. In Budapest, Imre Nagy, the executed leader of a revolt repudiating communism, is hailed as a hero.

"If Marx was alive today, he would be a student throwing rocks at the troops in Tiananmen Square," says Harvard University Soviet expert Richard Pipes, who served president Ronald Reagan as a White House adviser.

"Communism is on a historical retreat," says Zbigniew Brzezinski, the Polish born scholar who was president Jimmy Carter's foreign policy adviser.

"What we are seeing now is the end of classic real socialism," says former top Yugoslav communist leader Milovan Djilas, punished for years for declaring that communism created a new class of bureaucrats who were stifling society.

"If Polish communism is less brutal than it used to be, it is not because it has become socialism with a human face but because it has become communism with some teeth knocked out," says Solidarity leader Adam Michnik.

Nowhere is the crisis more dramatic than in the two major communist nations, the Soviet Union and China, and some Western experts say their problems may be insurmountable.

They see China meeting its crisis with tanks, troops, gunfire, and arrests while the Soviet Union tries to solve its problems with a flurry of democratic gestures ordered from the top but still leaving the Communist Party in control.

Many experts say neither way will save the communist system. Repression in China will lead to guerrilla warfare and fragmentation of the country and the partial Soviet democratisation will end either in renewed stagnation or even a KGB military coup, they add.

One US China expert, author Orville Schell, says "In China we have seen the Communist Party committing a kind of piecemeal suicide since the late 1950s. There was the anti-rightist movement of the 1950s, then the Cultural Revolution and now this kind of insane movement."

He thinks a desperate communist government will arrest and possibly even kill tens of thousands but that in the long-term repression will fail.

Analogy

"The analogy is with the rout of the nationalists in the 1940s. The symmetry is hauntingly similar. But in the 1940s there was an alternative — the communists — now there is nothing. In the short term we can expect a mess," he says.

"The trains have stopped. The roads are all ripped up. The factories are stopped. The present leadership has nothing to lose by slaughtering anyone with the aroma of dissidence about them. This is the big danger. It is a bit like the end of the Nazi era. Incinerate yourself or keep fighting."

Djilas agrees communism is in crisis. "All communist states will have to change. The change will come in different shapes and at different speeds. There will be repression. But the communists have lost the battle in China. Totalitarian forces in communism will always exist. In China they are now in power, in some other communist countries they are on the sidelines."

"Democratic forces are surfacing, forces which are trying to find a way out of the existing crisis. Hungary will certainly become a democracy. Poland, also. These countries, as well as Yugoslavia, are at the crossroads. They are no longer classic communist states. They are slowly changing into something else."

Change

US Soviet expert Pipes notes a change of attitude among Soviet officials, journalists and academics. "They ask advice." They regard the whole 70 years of communism as one grand mistake. They admire the American system of government, a government based on consensus. They think we are to be emulated.

"One Western diplomat in Budapest says communist reformers treat Stalinism as a wrong turn on the road to socialism but want to believe socialism is still achievable. "They do not accept the impossibility of reaching their original goal, but pragmatism is beginning to win over ideology."

Communism in Hungary faltered because of worsening external economic conditions, internal economic reform reaching its limits and the party under an ageing leader entering a crisis of confidence, he adds.

But Michael Kaufman, the author of a new study on Poland, *Mad Dreams, Saving Graces: Poland a Nation in Conspiracy*, thinks communism's problems in Hungary and Poland go much deeper than questions of economic success or failure.

"Why did communism die in Poland? Because it was never implanted there. Those who tried to plant communism were always aware of their own illegitimacy. Mothers would pray that their children would never join the party."

"In the old days, communism believed in the general crisis of capitalism. But before that happened, the general crisis of communism took place."

TODAY IN HISTORY

- 1672 — French Army crosses Rhine River at Talhoys.
- 1683 — Turks begin siege of Vienna: Rye House plot to assassinate King Charles II of Britain and his brother James, Duke of York, is uncovered; French fleet bombards Algiers.
- 1691 — Ahmed II succeeds Suleiman III as Sultan of Turkey.
- 1798 — French forces capture island of Malta.
- 1882 — Anti-foreign riots break out in Alexandria, Egypt.
- 1900 — Second German Naval Act aims at fleet of 38 battleships in 20 years.
- 1901 — Cuban convention makes that nation virtually a protectorate of United States.
- 1917 — King Constantine of Greece abdicates in favour of son Alexander.
- 1934 — Political parties are banned in Bulgaria.
- 1937 — Purge of Russian generals begins.
- 1940 — Japanese planes bomb Chungking, China.
- 1944 — Germans launch flying-bomb attacks against Britain.
- 1967 — Israel declares it will keep some of ground won from Egypt, Jordan and Syria in six-day Middle East war.
- 1984 — US Secretary of State George P. Shultz insists US government has hard evidence that Nicaragua is providing war material to rebels in El Salvador.
- 1987 — Former Emperor Jean-Bedel Bokassa is sentenced to death on conviction of murder, arbitrary arrests and embezzlement of public funds.
- 1988 — Demonstrations erupt over controversial constitutional amendment making Islam the state religion in Bangladesh.



China's new leadership line-up: (left to right): Qiao Shi, 65, head of security; Peng Zhen, 87, who campaigned against 'bourgeois liberalism'; Bo Yibo, 81, a former military leader, and President Yang Shangkun, 82.

Average age of 'new' leadership: well over 80

China: the geriatrics return to take charge ...

By Graham Earnshaw

CHINA'S fresh, new leadership line-up has finally been revealed to the world — only it's mostly the same people who were supposed to have been pushed into retirement five years ago.

Paramount leader Deng Xiaoping, 84, appeared on state television on Friday with the old men who have backed his bloody suppression of pro-democracy, anti-corruption protests.

With the average age well over 80, the "new leaders" certainly have plenty of experience between them. And what they lack in youthful dynamism, they more than make up for in rigid determination. Deng spent most of the early 1980s trying to ease these old men out of positions of power, creating an "advisory

commission" to soften their falls. But now they have returned, although it is not yet clear whether Deng invited them or they invited themselves.

Conspicuous by their absence from Friday's meeting were party chief Zhao Ziyang and Politburo member Hu Qili, two reformists who have clearly been purged by Deng and the other hardliners.

With Zhao and Hu consigned to the political realm of non-persons, the hardliners will be able to strengthen their hold on the country's top body, the standing committee of the Communist Party's Politburo.

One Western diplomat in Beijing predicted that the two most likely candidates to replace Zhao and Hu on the committee were two of the old men — President Yang Shangkun, 82, and his close associate Wang Zhen, 81. "I would have thought (the Politburo

seats) would be filled by the old men who controlled the Army," the diplomat said.

Both Yang and Wang have served in top posts in the People's Liberation Army for decades and command respect and allegiance from many of the Army's commanders.

Yang is now widely hated in Beijing because the Army which did the bulk of last weekend's dirty work in suppressing the pro-democracy protests was the 27th Army, commanded by one of his close relatives.

The only relatively youthful figures in the line-up are Qiao Shi, the 65-year-old head of the security apparatus and Premier Li Peng, 60, widely reviled in China now as a yes-man for the old-guard.

One of the many ironies of the situation is that most of the grey dragons

leading the crackdown on dissent were purged themselves during the Cultural Revolution of the late 1960s for allegedly being too reformist.

But they are also old enough to remember how important the student movement of the 1930s and 1940s was in securing the communist victory against the nationalist government of generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek.

Perhaps they were inspired to make their comeback by Deng's own reluctance to retire gracefully.

Some of the other old men who have suddenly re-emerged to wield supreme power over the lives of one billion Chinese one more time include:

— Bo Yibo, 81, another military veteran who looks to the early 1950s as the golden age of Chinese communism. He took a leading role in the campaigns against "bourgeois liberalism" (Western

political ideas) in the mid-1980s.

— Li Xianmin, 81, another former military commander who served for a number of years as China's president. He is known to be a firm believer in the austere communist virtues of the past.

— Pen Zhen, 87, one of the most vociferous promoters of the campaigns against "bourgeois liberalism." He was the first Politburo member to be purged in the Cultural Revolution for being a "capitalist roadster."

— Chen Yun, 84, an architect of the Soviet-style centralised economy set up after the communist victory in 1949 and became the party's ideological watchdog in the years after Deng's return to power in 1978. He has pushed unrelentingly for campaigns to weed out Western political ideas which he sees as being fatal to the Communist Party. (Reuter-Hong Kong)

...with intimidation, propaganda, repression

GUNFIRE no longer slices the leaden spring of Beijing. It has been replaced by a more pervasive onslaught — intimidation, propaganda and repression.

Chinese citizens, who have seen the signs before, face what could be the worst state backlash against free thought since the 1966-76 Cultural Revolution.

Already, Chinese sources say police are arresting intellectuals who supported the seven-weeklong student movement. Authorities announced Saturday that 400 people, including student leaders, had been rounded up for agitation.

Hundreds of people in cities outside Beijing also have been arrested in the unrest following last Sunday's military attack in Beijing that left up to 3,000 dead.

Student leaders who pressed such modest demands as freedom of the press and an end to government corruption have been branded counterrevolutionaries and told to turn themselves in. Activists charged with the same crime after the "democracy wall" movement of 1978-79 were imprisoned for up to 15 years.

Some student leaders are in hiding. A few are believed to have joined famous dissident Fang Lizhi, now sheltered at the US embassy, in retreating to foreign embassies.

"We now live in terror," said one student.

Show trials, such as that staged for Mao Tse-tung's widow Jiang Qing and her leftist "Gang of Four" after the Cultural Revolution, are a real possibility. Executions of "thugs" who attacked police or soldiers during the melees are almost certain.

More likely, however, relatively few leading dissidents will face criminal charges. Instead, there will be a more subtle campaign of fear and reprisal that will affect the lives of millions.

Threatened Workers have been docked pay and threatened with dismissal for participating in demonstrations. Students who carried banners for democracy and free speech face job assignments in remote provinces.

People face hour after hour of mind-deadening propaganda, as the government tries to drum home that the military



carried out the will of the masses by attacking unarmed protesters. In the latest example of government-manufactured truth, the official press is insisting that not one shot was fired when troops stormed Tiananmen Square.

Chinese intellectuals, always the first to suffer when the Communist Party lashes out at assumed threats to its authority, have gone underground. Many no longer answer phone calls and shun meetings with foreigners. Until the current conservative backlash subsides, writers will not write, filmmakers will not film, and political thinkers will keep thoughts to themselves.

The press, one of the biggest beneficiaries of the democracy movement, will be one of the prime victims of the crackdown.

Thousands of reporters joined the students in calling for press freedom, and for a brief, heady moment were permitted to print what they saw as the truth. Now, the press has returned to being a conduit for government pronouncements and reporters face penalties and political indoctrination.

One Chinese reporter expressed surprise when a foreigner asked to see a copy of the Communist Party's People's Daily. "There's no news in it," he said.

Repression of free thought has been an enduring legacy of communist rule in China.

In 1957, Mao Tse-tung lured critics into the open with the slogan: "let 100 flowers bloom, let 100 schools of thought contend." Within months, he launched an anti-rightist campaign, banishing thousands who had spoken out to prison and re-education camps.

Many victims of this campaign returned to normal life only to be caught up in the orgy of violence of the Cultural Revolution. People were tortured, driven to suicide or imprisoned for coming from an intellectual background.

working for a foreign company, speaking a foreign language or traveling abroad.

In a haunting preview to last week's bloodbath, security forces in 1976 stormed Tiananmen Square and killed about 100 people protesting the attempt by Mao's wife and other leftists to usurp power.

Deng Xiaoping, one of the prime victims of the Cultural Revolution, took power in the late 1970s and vowed that ideological struggles would no longer interfere with China's urgent need to alleviate poverty and modernize.

But Deng, a soldier of the revolution for more than 60 years, has no qualms about using force to suppress opposition. When democracy wall leaders began to question the communists' one-party rule, he struck hard, imprisoning dozens of people and sentencing dissident Wei Jingsheng to 15 years for counter-revolutionary activities.

He responded to pro-democracy student demonstrations of late 1986 and early 1987 by purging his chosen successor, Communist Party chief Hu Yaobang, for being soft on dissent and launching a numbing campaign against "bourgeois liberalisation," or attraction to western ideas.

Despite his oft-quoted remark that China will have to let in a few flies when it opens its windows to the world, he stands firmly against "spiritual pollution" from the West.

For Deng and the other ageing conservatives now standing behind him, Western technology is needed, but Western culture is a threat.

When China's destiny, in the form of increased adoption of Western ideas, presses too closely, they instinctively react with the repression of the past.

That still doesn't answer the gnawing question of why Deng sanctioned the murder of thousands in the drive to put down a weakening student movement on Tiananmen Square.

One factor is that the military lost control. For two weeks before the attack, the people of Beijing had humiliated the Army, blocking their way into the city and taunting troops, comprised heavily of recruits from poor rural areas with little education.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Avoid personal attacks

SIR: It gives me great pain to note that certain individuals are being marked for harsh criticism in this column. I refer to the India Day Programme held at the Beid Al Ghar Sea Club, last month.

It had always been advertised in the newspapers and television, that this programme was the culmination of a joint effort by the Indian Embassy and the various associations in Kuwait along with the Touristic Enterprises Company, Kuwait, and not by any individual person or association only. Anybody who came forward to take part in it was invited to do so.

For the first time, all the associations worked under one umbrella, producing a good show, although there is always scope for improvement. There were more than 2000 Arab families who enjoyed the show along with more than 6000 Indian families, and the Arabic newspapers were full of praises for the show. It is regrettable that some of the readers of the English newspapers in Kuwait failed to appreciate the effort

behind the show. I request the readers to carefully avoid personal attacks through these columns and instead, to come out with positive or constructive suggestions.

V. Jayaraman.

Rich programme

SIR: I was surprised to find a few letters, giving undue criticism to the Discovery of India Programme held at the Indian Arts Circle in April 1989.

In fact, the programme was very rich in quality, having been advertised as semi-classical and not as film music! The majority of the audience enjoyed the whole show — classical ragas mingled with appropriate choreography and overhead projections, being a rare variety in Kuwait.

In choir music of this type, the singers stand still and let only the dancers perform on the stage, unlike Western music. It would be a blunder to expect otherwise. The superior quality of the singers, musicians as well as the director himself, is already well-known among the knowledgeable crowd in

Kuwait. Most of the songs were in Hindi, as can be clearly seen from the souvenir.

V.J. Sait.

Licensed to suffer

SIR: 'DAY BY DAY' is my favourite column and without reading it I feel as if I have missed something, as the column highlights Zahid Matar's frank & democratic views. I wish to bring to notice a problem which a lot of expatriates are suffering in Kuwait. This touchy issue is regarding a Kuwaiti driving licence.

I am resident in Kuwait along with my children, and have tried many times to change my Pakistani licence to a Kuwaiti licence. Each time I go to the traffic department, I receive a negative reply. I am neither a doctor or an engineer, and my bachelor's degree in Science is of no value, as a professional driver supercedes me in applying and getting a Kuwaiti licence. I have now started believing that education is of least importance. I feel very guilty towards my children, being unable to

expose them to recreational activities which they demand from time to time.

I will probably never forget that midnight when my one and half-year-old daughter was having convulsions & shivering because of high temperature, and I found myself helpless to take her to the hospital.

May we expect some change in this rigid policy.

Mohammad Abdullah

Ode to a folly

SIR: This is in supplementary support to Mr Mahesh Desai's letter published in A. T. Thursday 8th June, 1989.

Oh! Consul of the British Queen! Do you observe the daily scene that fast besets your marbled place and brings disgrace to the Sovereign's face?

Are you so 'cool' within your halls That you can ignore what truly falls Are you so lacking in civility That you put your guests in a purgatory?

Take money now, and spend it where The humble visitor must sit, in heat and glare Do your job, be a loyal man Don't hide behind that electric fan.

Remove the net that veils your eyes Enclose & cool that place of heat & flies Assert yourself, take up the fight Put an end to this sorry plight.

If you profess to be a worthy 'Knight' Get on your horse, and put to flight Those parsimonious designer fools Who sit in England on their high stools.

Do get our Prince to take to task Those who in his glory falsely bark Urge him to set them in the midday sun That they may know what shame's been done.

G.W. Evans.

All letters to the Editor must contain the writer's name and address. Publication is at the discretion of the Editor and letters are subject to the editing process for space or other reasons.

Handwritten signature: J. J. ...

Israel under pressure to reopen schools

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, June 11. (Reuters). Israel is under mounting world and domestic pressure to reopen schools in the occupied West Bank, closed almost continuously for the last 18 months due to the Palestinian uprising.

The prolonged ban, which extends even to kindergartens and teaching in private homes, has deprived more than 300,000 Arab children of education, leaving them to wander the streets as restless foot soldiers of the anti-Israeli revolt.

It now threatens to wipe out an entire

academic year.

The United States, the European Economic Community and Israel's own education minister have all urged the government publicly in the last two weeks to change its policy.

"With the continued closure of schools, they (the Israelis) are denying pupils their natural right," the East Jerusalem Palestinian daily newspaper Al Quds lamented on Thursday.

"Hundreds of thousands of primary

school pupils cannot even start the basics of reading, writing and arithmetic," it said.

The head of Israel's West Bank occupation administration, Brigadier-General Shaike Erez, has told Palestinian notables that he would allow schools to reopen if they guaranteed calm.

Erez' spokesman denied Palestinian charges that the closure was a collective punishment.

The schools had become focal points for violent demonstrations and many pupils

had been injured after attacking troops or stoning Israeli cars, he said.

Palestinian leaders initially rejected the idea of policing the schools to prevent anti-Israeli unrest. But some now say an offer of a "schools ceasefire" might demonstrate the PLO's power on the West Bank.

Israeli authorities have enforced the ban with a rigour that suggests more than maintaining order is at stake.

Critics say the closure of kindergartens served no security purpose.

MIDEAST BRIEFS

Treaty abrogated

KHARTOUM, June 11. (AP). The government has abrogated a joint defence treaty with Egypt and proclaimed a military agreement with Libya null, conditions which southern rebels set for the progress on ongoing peace talks.

The Council of Ministers or cabinet issued a statement to that effect yesterday as a government ministerial delegation started peace talks with the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Organisation in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa.

Bus crash kills 18

ANKARA, June 11. (Reuters). A bus collision 200 km (125 miles) west of Ankara killed 18 people on their way to a wedding today and injured 33, Turkey's Anatolian news agency said.

Bomb scare

CAIRO, June 11. (AP). The American embassy compound was sealed off briefly today when "suspicious looking objects" were found in a garbage bin on the embassy grounds but then turned out to be parts of old batteries, an embassy spokeswoman and the Middle East News Agency reported.

ICO cutback

RIYADH, June 11. (Reuters). The Islamic Conference Organisation is firing a fifth of its staff because most member states have failed to pay their contributions, a Saudi Arabian newspaper reported today.

The Saudi Gazette said the ICO, a pan-Islamic organisation based in Jeddah, is firing 26 out of 130 employees, ranging from a director to a gardener.

Technology export

HAMBURG, June 11. (AP). A government agency routinely approved export licences for high technology shipments to an alleged rocket development plant in Iraq, a news magazine reported yesterday.

The weekly magazine Der Spiegel said the Federal Economics Office was "extremely generous" in giving approval for the shipments to Iraq and other countries.

Ethiopia-Gulf ties

NICOSIA, June 11. (Reuters). Ethiopia is trying to improve links with Gulf Arab states, reviving a pact which rebels fighting for independence in the Red Sea province of Eritrea.

The official United Arab Emirates news agency WAM today quoted Ethiopian Vice-President Yusef Ahmed saying in an interview with the Dubai-based Al Bayan newspaper that Addis Ababa was trying to clear hurdles to better relations.

UN-sponsored talks

ISTANBUL, June 11. (AP). The political leaders of divided Cyprus failed to make substantial progress in their latest round of UN-sponsored talks, an official was quoted as saying today.

Turkey's semi-official Anatolia news agency quoted Rauf Denktaş, president of the breakaway Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, as saying he and Greek Cypriot President George Vassiliou did not prepare a draft outline for an overall settlement of the Cyprus problem, as they had been expected to do.

British hostage

BEIRUT, June 11. (Reuters). The wife of British Jack Mann, abducted in Lebanon last month, appealed to his kidnappers to free him on his birthday on Tuesday when he will turn 75.

"Jack's birthday is in two days," his wife Susan told reporters at her home in Muslim West Beirut today.

Iraq denies Kurds forcibly resettled

ARBIL, Iraq, June 11. (AP). A senior Iraqi official has strongly denied claims by Kurdish opposition groups that the government is forcibly resettling Kurds outside their traditional mountain homeland in an effort to crush their separatist movement.

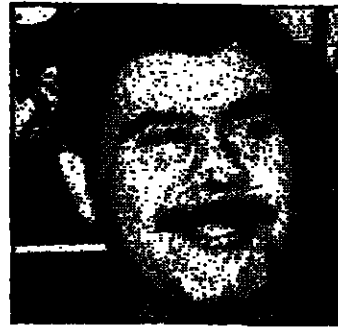
Ahmed Abdul Qader Al Naqshabandi, a Kurdish official heading the legislative council of the autonomous Kurdish region in northern Iraq said in an interview last week that "not a single Kurd" will be deported from the area.

Al Naqshabandi, based in the autonomous region's capital of Arbil, called the rebel claims "pure fabrications... the product of a fertile imagination."

He said Kurdish villagers were being relocated as part of a government project to develop the area after "long years of backwardness."

"It's non-political and non-partisan — only a communal programme aiming at uplifting economic and social standards for the villagers," Al Naqshabandi said.

Bad weather blamed for Kheirullah's death



Kheirullah: accident

BAGHDAD, June 11. (Reuters). Bad weather caused a helicopter crash in which Iraqi defence minister General Adnan Kheirullah was killed last month, an official report said today.

The report, published in Iraqi newspapers, said Kheirullah's helicopter was "in an unusual position because of bad weather associated with sandstorms and bad visibility" during a flight on May 5.

It said the 49-year-old minister was flying to Baghdad from northern Iraq in a US-made Bell helicopter.

The report ruled out an explosion or technical problem with the aircraft and said that the crew told ground controllers before the accident that the

helicopter was landing because of bad weather.

Kheirullah was a brother-in-law and cousin of President Saddam Hussein. He was replaced as defence minister by General Abdul Jabbar Shamsal, formerly minister of state for military affairs.

An air force co-pilot and five other people, including three bodyguards, were also on the aircraft when it crashed.

The first announcement of the crash said one passenger had survived the crash and was taken to hospital with injuries. But he is believed to have died because there has been no official references to him since then.

Ghali visits Israel for talks on peace

Mubarak message for Shamir

TEL AVIV, June 11. (Agencies). Butros Ghali, Egypt's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, arrived in Israel today for talks on Middle East peace efforts.

He is the highest ranking Egyptian official to visit the Jewish state in nearly two years.

Ghali told reporters at Ben Gurion international airport that he was carrying a message from Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak for Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir.

"I will be seeing many people here in our efforts to bring about a lasting and comprehensive peace in the region, a peace we all need," Ghali said. His visit will last two days.

Foreign Minister Moshe Arens, who greeted Ghali, said he hoped to muster Egypt's support for the Israeli peace initiative, which proposes elections in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip to select Palestinians to hold talks on an interim peace agreement with Israel.

"We are especially pleased because you are bringing us a message from President Mubarak, who is held in great esteem here," Arens said. "We hope to engender your support for Israel's peace initiative."

The PLO and Palestinian leaders in the territories have criticised the plan, demanding first an end to Israeli military occupation and a guarantee that elections would lead toward creation of an independent Palestinian state.

Egypt, the only Arab country to sign a peace treaty with Israel, has been attempting to mediate in the latest peace-seeking efforts in the region. The Egypt-Israeli treaty was signed in 1979.

Ghali's visit also signals a thaw in Israeli-Egyptian relations, which have been strained during an 18-month-old Palestinian uprising in the occupied lands. At least 514 Palestinians have been killed in the revolt against Israeli rule. Twenty-two Israelis also have died.

The last Egyptian cabinet minister to visit Israel was Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel-Meguid, who came in July 1987.

Ghali today met Israeli Finance Minister Shimon Peres, Science Minister Ezer Weizman and Arens.

"We agreed to many things, we disagreed on some things, but we are still good friends. We must



Peres (left) meeting Ghali

continue to work together," Ghali told reporters after meeting Peres.

In a surprise move, Ghali held a brief, closed-door meeting with Faisal Husseini, a leading PLO activist from Arab East Jerusalem.

Husseini said after the session at Jerusalem's King David Hotel that "the Egyptian position, I believe, supports the Palestinian position." He declined further comment.

He will tomorrow hold separate meetings with Shamir and with about a dozen Palestinian leaders from the territories. News reports said Israeli leaders would urge that a meeting be scheduled between Shamir and Mubarak. The last Israeli-Egyptian summit was in September 1986.

Arens told the Associated Press in a recent interview that Israel sought a summit with Egypt "hopefully with the participation of (US) President George Bush."

Arens also indicated Israel would not insist, as it has in the past, the summit be held in occupied Jerusalem, the Jewish state's disputed capital. "I think that's not terribly important," he said. "We could easily agree on a location."

Shamir and his rivals in the right-wing Likud party agreed today they would debate the Israeli peace plan on July 2.

Shamir's two main party rivals, Deputy Premier David Levy and Trade Minister Ariel Sharon, oppose the initiative, which is backed by the US and want Likud's 2,600-member central committee to reject it.

Israel today released more than half a million Arabs from a week-long confinement to their homes, lifting from most of the Gaza Strip the longest curfew imposed during the Palestinian uprising.

The Army said the curfew, part of a clampdown in Israeli-occupied territories, would remain on 55,000 Arabs in Jabalya refugee camp, where troops shot dead an eight-year-old boy and wounded 11 residents in clashes yesterday.

Thousands of Arab workers left for jobs in Israel, many carrying new computerised permits to help authorities screen suspected troublemakers. All Arab workers in the strip are due to be issued the cards over the next few weeks.

Israel charged eight peace activists today with breaking a ban on contacts with what it says are terrorist groups by meeting senior PLO officials in Hungary two years ago.

The Soviet Union has criticised the US for using the veto right against a draft resolution in the UN Security Council denouncing Israel's repressive policies in the occupied Arab lands.

Afghan colonel, 9 others die, rebels say

ISLAMABAD, June 11. (AP). Muslim rebels claimed today they killed an Afghan Army colonel and nine soldiers in an ambush on the key road linking Kabul, the capital, with Afghanistan's besieged eastern city of Jalalabad.

The rebels also denied a report by the communist government that rebel soldiers have contacted Kabul officials to arrange a truce.

Insurgents, called mujahideen, ambushed three government convoys last Wednesday and Thursday along a 42-mile (70-kilometre) stretch of contested road west of Jalalabad, according to the rebel Afghan News Agency.

It quoted a radio report saying a colonel and nine soldiers were killed, 27 were wounded and one officer deserted to the mujahideen.

Qariab Rahman Saed, head of news agency, said he had not received the colonel's identity. There was no independent confirmation.

Mujahideen, supplied mainly by Pakistan and the United States, have besieged Jalalabad since March 6, three weeks after Soviet troops ended nearly a decade of involvement in the civil war.

The rebels have rendered the communist-held airport unsafe for fixed wing aircraft but entrenched government forces have resupplied by helicopter.

A few armoured convoys have fought their way through from the west with losses of men and material.

ANA has reported 51 communist soldiers killed and 54 wounded in fighting around Afghanistan since Wednesday.

It said rebels rocketed the military airport at the southern city of Kandahar on Wednesday and Thursday, killing six soldiers, wounding seven and destroying a Soviet-built Antonov-12 transport plane on the ground.

Two of the most powerful mujahideen parties, the Jamiat-i-Islami of Burhanuddin Rabbani and the Hezb-i-Islami of Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, both based in Pakistan, denied claims by the Kabul government that several rebel commanders had approached the communists for a truce.

"The regime's claims that the mujahideen commanders have contacted them is based on fabrication and falsehood," they said in a joint statement.

They called it a ploy by Afghan President Najibullah to sow discord among rebel groups.

"The writing on the wall is clear — the puppet regime's days are numbered," the statement said.

Mujahideen predicted the Ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan would fall quickly after the Soviet troop withdrawal. But Najibullah has cited his forces' tenacious defence of Jalalabad as proof that his government has the power to survive.

He has offered repeated deals to the rebels to end the fighting, and launched a propaganda campaign including claims that some insurgent groups were suing for peace.



Giant poster of Khomeini

A giant poster of Khomeini hangs at the entrance of the shrine of Hazrat-e-Masoumeh in Qom. (Reuters wirephoto)

Khomeini to rule for some time from grave

Tug of war in Tehran

NICOSIA, June 11. (AP). Iran's so-called pragmatists appear to have filled the power vacuum in the immediate aftermath of the death of Ayatollah Khomeini a week ago. But his ghost is likely to haunt Iran for some time.

Despite the public solidarity the Tehran hierarchy has shown to head off any political upheaval after Khomeini's passing, the pragmatists still face a power struggle with their radical rivals who claim they are his revolutionary heirs.

President Ali Khamenei, 49, was swiftly elected

the country's spiritual leader by the 83-member Assembly of Experts, formed in 1979 to ensure a smooth succession when Khomeini died. Khamenei, widely considered a compromise choice

who was acceptable to all factions, admitted then that he wasn't sure if his new post was temporary or not.

Parliament Speaker and Acting Commander-in-Chief Hashemi Rafsanjani, Khamenei's political ally, declared Thursday it was permanent. He denied there is a power struggle, then appealed for unity.

But analysts believe that nothing is final until proposed constitutional amendments, which could include a collective leadership to replace Khomeini's undisputed one-man rule, are put before the nation in a referendum Aug 18, at the same time as presidential elections.

Radicals such as Interior Minister Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, along with military commanders and political leaders, have declared allegiance to Khamenei.

But that display of unity masks the bitter rivalries that are likely to intensify now that Khomeini is not around to keep them in check, as he did years by alternating his support between factions.

Significantly, since Khamenei's appointment it has been Rafsanjani, 55, who has done most of talking.

His high profile at this critical time lends weight to the belief that, for now at least, the pragmatists have succeeded in wresting control away from the radicals who were in the ascendancy before Khomeini died.

Rafsanjani has favoured building bridges to end Iran's isolation — even if he blamed the West for that when he spoke Thursday.

He and his allies believe that economic and social liberalisation is essential after the sacrifices and hardships of the war against Iraq.

The pragmatists believe that Iran cannot afford to rely on fundamentalist slogans to feed and employ its rapidly growing population, hungry for a better life after the sacrifices and hardships of the war and the excesses of the revolution.

The anti-Western radicals want to tighten state control of the economy and to further the fundamentalist revolution among the world's 800 million Muslims.

On the face of it, Rafsanjani's pronouncements of Iran's relations with the West have not indicated any short-term prospect for improvement.

But analysts believe that for the time being, he has to tread softly to avoid accusations he is deviating from Khomeini's legacy.

The absence of a single figure with Khomeini's undisputed authority to act as referee between the rival factions points to political turbulence ahead.

If Rafsanjani and his allies can maintain their grip until August, they will be likely able to consolidate control.

The reforms being formulated by a high-powered committee formed by Khomeini before his death to correct what he called "flaws and imperfections" in the 1979 revolutionary constitution is expected to recommend investing more power in the presidency and possibly scrap the post of prime minister, currently held by hardliner Mir Hussein Musavi.

It may also propose downgrading the religious qualifications for leadership from the quasi-divine mandate held by Khomeini, thus opening the door for men with lesser Islamic credentials to fill the vacuum left by the revolutionary patriarch.

However, the official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA), monitored in Nicosia, reported Friday that the Assembly of Experts dismissed a proposal for a collective leadership before electing Khamenei.

Many clerical leaders oppose any move that will undermine the religious foundations of the state, from which they draw their power. Nonetheless, a collective leadership embracing the main factions remains a possibility.

Rafsanjani is the only declared candidate in the presidential race. Khamenei, whose second-four year term expires in October and who cannot run again, has endorsed Rafsanjani.

"If he gets the constitutional changes through and gets elected as well he'll be in a very strong position," said Shahram Chubin, an Iran specialist with Geneva's Graduate Institute of International Affairs.

"But he'll have to move slowly against the radicals, cutting them off one by one."

Saudis purchase French Mistral air defence system



Prince Sultan (left) with Chevenement during a lunch. (Reuters wirephoto)

RIYADH, June 11. (KUNA). Saudi Arabia's Defence and Aviation Minister Prince Sultan said yesterday he had signed two agreements during his current visit to Paris under which France would supply the kingdom with its needs of military hardware including the Mistral air defence system.

Riyadh would pay for the purchases in cash as well as in manufactured products such as petrochemicals "and others of the kingdom's exports", Prince Sultan was quoted by Radio Riyadh as telling Saudi journalists at his Paris residence.

One of the two agreements specifically covers the supply to the kingdom of the air defence system, the minister said, pointing out that Saudi officers had joined French experts in developing the system and were now familiar with its potential and maintenance.

Sultan said he signed the two agreements with French Defence Minister Jean Pierre Chevenement.

He added that his current European tour which had taken him to Greece, Britain and France, was instructed by King Fahd to outline the kingdom's position on key Arab issues, chiefly the Palestinian question and to win Western support for the PLO's peace moves, according to the radio.

ARAB TIMES Review



Nagammai, left, a fruit vendor in Madras, with a class of children at the women's working forum.

Mothers of Madras

Forum lifts limitations of class, caste and gender

MADRAS, India: Like other small, crowded neighbourhoods in Madras, Chalmar Nagar is more like a rural village than an urban slum. One-room houses with walls of reed matting like narrow, dusty alleyways. Behind them, swampland glows brilliant green, packed with the giant leaves and purple flowers of water hyacinths.

But Chalmar Nagar is hardly a pastoral paradise. The air is thick with exhaust fumes from this bustling south Indian city's traffic jams. Cows roam the lanes, but so do motorcycles, rickshaws, trucks, the occasional car, and bullock carts. Everyone seems to be scrambling for survival — everyone, that is, except the men napping on string cots in the shade.

Subu Lakshmi is at home here. She even feels a sense of proprietorship for the community, because she has had a positive effect on many people's lives.

Until five years ago, Lakshmi was like many other women here: With four children and a husband who earned little as a coolie, she sold rice cakes on the street. She was always in debt to a moneylender, and often her children did not have enough to eat.

"I suffered a lot with four children, not being able to feed them properly," says Lakshmi, a tall, graceful woman who seems totally at ease talking to strangers. "That's why now I can explain to people that life is just too hard with four children — that after having two they should stop."

Five years ago, she was approached by a community organizer from the Women's Working Forum (WWF), an agency that extends family planning help and small business loans to poor women who have no access to commercial banks. The woman suggested she use some form of birth control, and Lakshmi decided — against her husband's wishes — to have a tubectomy. Her husband later agreed when she told him she had been offered a job as a family planning worker herself.

Today, Lakshmi earns more than her husband does — and much more than she earned selling rice cakes — promoting family planning in the community. She spends her earnings on better food and clothes for her family. But, she admits with a big smile, her sense of accomplishment is just as important to her as her salary.

"At first I was afraid to go around and speak to so many people," she says. "But now I'm speaking bravely. People respect me."

Lakshmi regularly visits 300 families in Chalmar Nagar, about 30 every day. The training she received at WWF has enabled her to gain women's confidence and to present them with options that allow them to choose an appropriate means of birth control. So far, 98 of her client families are using one kind of birth control or another.

Across the city from Lakshmi and the slums

of Chalmar Nagar stands a nondescript, two-storey building on a quiet residential street. It gives no hint of the unusual scene that takes place inside each day. In a second-floor room with pale green, flowered wallpaper, nine women in brilliantly coloured saris sit at long tables, pouring over columns of figures in huge ledgers bound in green and purple and red. Most of the room is in shadow, with dazzling, liquid yellow sunlight streaming in from the window. The scene would look positively Dickensian, if it were not so vividly vibrantly Indian.

This is one of three bank branches of WWF. Three women are sitting on a backless bench against the wall, waiting to transact business.

"In a bank where there are only men working, these women feel shy to speak," says Egammal, manager of the WWF bank. "They may come from the fish market and they smell bad. The men say, 'Don't stand here, move farther away.'"

But at the WWF bank, the constraints of tradition are being swept aside. Women at the lowest rung of the social and economic ladder form groups of borrowers, take out loans, and free themselves from the grip of the money-

lenders who used to drain off all their profits.

Nagammai is a fruit vendor, a handsome woman in a purple sari with a red blouse underneath — generally unheard of colours for a widow, who is expected to wear only white.

"Normally, widows are shunned," says Egammal. "If a widow passes by a newly married person, or someone applying for a job, it's considered unlucky. People think the marriage or the job will not work out."

Such traditional beliefs, as well as caste restrictions and the demanding of large amounts of dowry from a bride's family, are among the "oppressions" that WWF's founder, Jaya Arunachalam, is working to combat.

"Oppression comes from the vested interests in society itself," she says. "From classes, from cast, from gender." Hence, WWF draws most of its members from the lowest caste. And the organisation promotes inter-caste marriages that are dowry-free.

Nagammai belongs to what is called a "backward" caste, but she is the leader of a group that also has 10 other WWF borrowers. She may be barefoot and illiterate, but she walks into this bank with dignity and con-

ducts her business with assurance.

Mrs Arunachalam, who founded WWF in 1980, says it is not large infusions of aid or the "blueprints" of outside experts that make her "networking" — this reliance on the skills and energy of women at the grass-roots level.

"You have to empower the poorer sectors of the population, that's the first step toward development," Arunachalam says. "Planning has to come from below, from the grass roots."

From the beginning, it was the poor women themselves who shaped the agency's programmes by articulating their needs. For example, when the agency started, the primary service it offered women was credit at 18 per cent per year, to free them from the stranglehold of the moneylenders, who charge as much as 10 per cent per day. But the women knew they had a further need.

"You're lending us money," they said, "but we still have too many children." So we realised we had to offer them family planning too," says Arunachalam.

Why this emphasis on women? Development agencies around the world are finding that aid directed to women has a greater impact on the welfare of poor families,

and ultimately whole communities, than did directed to men.

"It's women's incomes that carry most families," says Arunachalam. "When a woman works, 100 per cent of her earnings goes to the family. When a man works, 65 per cent goes to the family, and with alcoholism increasing, his contribution is often almost nil. So women are the key to development."

For those who believe that Third World development must be directed toward raising the living standards of the generally poor masses, another key group is the vast "informal sector." In many countries, these "self-employed" men and women far outnumber officially salaried workers.

These are the coolies carrying loads in the streets, the food vendors, handicraft-makers, washerwomen, tailors, cigarette rollers, construction workers, rag pickers, domestic workers and small shopkeepers. They and their families make up about 80 per cent of India's population of 817 million, but they enjoy no financial safety nets, have no access to mainstream institutions such as banks, and are often exploited and victimised by moneylenders, middlemen, and local police.

Women workers in the informal sector are

especially vulnerable, poorly paid, and often cheated, while frequently being the main — even the sole — support of their families. In south India, WWF provides various services for some 82,000 women, including 36,000 in Madras alone. Almost all members have become borrowers from WWF also offers training in tailoring for young women, a night school for child labourers, a boarding school for boys and one for girls, nutrition classes, and leadership training.

Killiammal is a vegetable vendor and widow who has been a member of WWF — and a borrower and saver at its bank — for four years.

She lives with her five children and two grandchildren in one stuffy tenement room underneath a busy elevated highway. (Her married daughter was recently abandoned by her husband, so she has come home with her two small children.)

But the loans she receives from WWF enable her to buy vegetables in bulk. And the profits from her business no longer go as interest payments to the moneylender, but on better food for her family and on school expenses for her grandchildren.

Banking on Bangladesh



A man from Bangladesh's Grameen Bank meets with clients.

'Purdah' to purse: Grameen's pretty good idea

HARAN NAGAR, Bangladesh, June 11: Along the sandy banks of the Dhaleswari River, a tranquil tributary of the Ganges in waterlogged Bangladesh, there is perpetual movement. This country has nearly 110 million people. Villages are strung in an endless chain of jute-stick huts on the higher ground above the riverbanks. Lines of men trudge along the shores, straining forward against ropes that haul huge, ancient, square-sailed ships up the middle of the river.

The men will talk and laugh with a visitor as they walk. But the women washing clothes at the river's edge hide their faces in their saris and turn away as if trying to erase themselves when a stranger comes near.

Most Bangladeshi women behave this way with strangers, following the custom of purdah (which literally means "curtain") and centuries of tradition that have left most of them timid, uneducated, and insecure.

In some villages, the women stand tall when visitors approach. They hold up their heads and, with a beguiling mixture of pride and shyness, look strangers in the eye. Then they do something even more unexpected: give a crisp, energetic, military-style salute in greeting.

What has changed these women's behaviour, their perception of themselves — indeed, their economic standing, and their very status in their

communities?

The Grameen Bank (grameen means village in Bengali) provides business credit to women who previously were treated — and saw themselves — as nothing but burdens on their families. It was started as an "antipoverty" experiment in 1976 by Muhammad Yunus, a professor of economics at Chittagong University. It became a full-fledged bank in 1983. With about half a million borrowers today, the bank is growing at a rate of 10,000 to 15,000 new borrowers a month. To date, it has reached 9,500 villages — 14 per cent of Bangladesh's 68,000 rural communities.

The sight of barefoot women in bright, multicoloured saris saluting from the doorways of their palm-matted huts may surprise visitors, but it exemplifies the underlying objective of the bank: to uplift the poorest and most oppressed members of one of the world's poorest, most tradition-bound societies.

"We wanted to get rid of these women's habit of being noentities," says Dr Yunus, who earned his economics degree at Vanderbilt University in the United States.

"They normally hide their faces, and when they salaam (the traditional greeting), they touch their forehead with a limp hand. Somebody thought of the salute, which is like a salaam but with a very important difference. You

can't hide your face and salute at the same time. You have to stand up tall."

Grameen is a bank tailor-made for the poorest — for those who have no access to commercial banks but must resort to begging from local landowners or borrowing from moneylenders who charge 10 per cent per month or more. At the Grameen Bank, one must be landless to qualify for a loan. (About 60 per cent of Bangladeshis are considered landless, even though many of them do own tiny plots of about one-fifth of an acre.) About 82 per cent of Grameen's borrowers are women — the poorest of the poor.

"Women see the worst kind of poverty, because women are the ones who must feed people," says Yunus. "If you give a chance to the women, they become much better fighters against poverty than men. A woman sees much further into the future than a man does. She always wants to have a better life for her children. Given an opportunity, she works for the future."

"And it is usually the very desperate ones who come (for a loan). Often it's women abandoned by their husbands. That is who the Grameen Bank was created for — those who have no means at all."

The loans are small — the average amount for a first-time loan is \$65. With the exception of housing loans, the credit provided is "venture

capital" for enterprises like rice-husking, weaving, or the production and sale of vegetables, eggs, or milk. To ensure that the women receive advice and encouragement from their peers in formulating business plans, they must form groups of five to take out a loan. If a borrower has difficulty repaying her loan, the other members of her group help.

The bank's capital comes from government loans made at 2 per cent interest, financed by aid from Canada, Norway, Sweden, West Germany, and other donors. All operating expenses, including opening branches and salaries of some 6,000 branch employees, are covered by the 16 per cent interest per annum the bank charges borrowers.

The Grameen Bank model has gained such a following that virtually all of Bangladesh's development programmes will soon adopt its credit-intensive approach, according to a leading government planner. And Grameen's system is being replicated in Malawi, Burkina Faso, Mali, Ivory Coast, and Tanzania, as well as the south side of Chicago, rural Arkansas, and other parts of the United States.

The idea of banks — of dealing with strangers and handling money — is so foreign to these women that taking the first step can be frightening. Hence, each group elects a leader who they feel will give them courage. "Setara was braver than the rest of

us," says one woman of her group leader. "We were all hesitating, but she said, 'Why worry? Either we will die or we will live like human beings.' So she mustered the courage for everyone."

Several groups of borrowers form a "centre" that meets once a week with a representative from the nearest of the bank's 464 branches. Over a 50-week period, members pay off the principal of their loans at 2 per cent a week, and the 16 per cent interest in two more weeks. At the end of the 52 weeks, borrowers who are paid up qualify for a larger loan. Grameen's repayment rate is 98 per cent.

The material benefits of using the bank are obvious: Nutrition levels rise, living conditions improve, and drudgery is replaced with productive activity.

"Now we can spend more money on food," says borrower Alaka Parveen. Small and slight, she is dressed in a beautiful, vibrant combination of colours: a yellow and red sari over a red and white striped blouse. "Before, we never could give milk or eggs to our children. Now they eat these and we do, too."

Grameen borrowers are required to save 1 taka per week (about 3 cents) plus 5 per cent of each loan amount.

The Christian Science Monitor

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Shake-up unveiled Moscow to try to put right faltering economy

MOSCOW, June 11, (Reuters): A wide-ranging ministerial shake-up announced by Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov has produced a leaner, younger and better qualified team to try to put right the country's faltering economy.

Ryzhkov, in an address yesterday to the Supreme Soviet, the upper chamber of the Soviet parliament, announced huge cuts in government bureaucracy. Twenty of 52 ministries in the industrial, transport and farming sectors are to be abolished outright. Only 10 of 100 senior government officials appointed in 1984 remain in office.

He also unveiled a new line-up of his closest assistants — 13 first deputy and deputy prime ministers — to be submitted for parliament approval later this month. Most are younger and more qualified than their predecessors.

Among those promoted was Leonid Abalkin, one of the country's leading economic reformers, while Finance Minister Boris Gostev was dropped.

Speakers during the parliament's inaugural session denounced the government's economic policies, warning that quick action was needed to curb the huge budget deficit and do away with growing shortages of staple consumer goods.

Economist Nikolai Shmelyov suggested last week that Ryzhkov was unaware of the acuteness of the problem. He also said official estimates of the budget deficit — 100 billion roubles (\$156 billion) — was 20 per cent below the real figure.

Ryzhkov acknowledged the criticisms were "correct and justified" and said his government would respond to them. The new ministers, he said, would operate on a new basis of minimum interference in production methods.

"We are talking about a completely new type of ministry, qualitatively different from what existed before," he said.

Lloyd Triestino to start weekly service

AT the last owners' meeting in London on April 4, Medclub, a container consortium covering Far East, Japan and Mediterranean trades decided to improve the present every 10 day service with fixed day-weekly sailings.

Medclub is a consortium comprising three major members of the relative freight conferences, i.e. Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Mitsui O.S.K. Lines and Lloyd Triestino (Italian flag). Other two lines are also operating as associated members — NOL (Singapore flag) and OOCL (Hong Kong flag).

The club is operating at the moment with seven vessels offering 1500-2000 capacity.

Up to now, the stretch between Far East/Japan and the four Mediterranean ports has been covered by a service every 10 days with each 70 day-round voyage carried out by a total of seven vessels.

The Medclub has decided that the relevant service will improve by means of every 7 day (weekly) service with each 63 day-round voyage by a total of 9 vessels, adding 2 more vessels thereto. This venture will start from coming July.

It is almost certain that three larger vessels, namely "Rhine Maru," "Oceanus Osaka" and "Oceanus Tokyo," all transferred from the proper Europe trade in 1988, and the two smaller vessels, namely "Mont Blanc Maru" and "Fakata" will continue to serve this route.

Trade delegation woos investors

KUWAIT, June 11, (KUNA): Three Indian economic officials yesterday made a presentation here on Indian economy and capital market for the benefit of foreign investors.

They are members of a delegation that is currently visiting Kuwait to promote investments in India for foreign investors.

The delegation is led by executive director of SBI Capital Markets Limited S.M. Parande and groups Hadi Naqvi, the economic adviser at the economic affairs department of the Ministry of Finance and P.R. Bindhu Madhavan, the director of investments of the Ministry of Finance.

The speakers discussed mainly three subjects, including the Indian economy, Indian capital (stock) market and the opportunities available to foreign investors in India and explained certain specific project profiles.

UK set for 11 to one clash over EEC social charter

BRUSSELS, June 11, (Reuters): Britain is set for a showdown tomorrow with the rest of the European Economic Community over a proposed charter to guarantee minimum social rights across 12 countries.

"From what I know so far, it's 11 to one," Greek socialist Vasso Papanandreu, the EEC's commissioner for social affairs, told Reuters.

The charter and moves towards monetary union are the most divisive issues currently on the community agenda. Both pit Britain against its partners and both will feature prominently at the EEC summit in Madrid on June 26-27.

The charter, to be discussed by EEC ministers in Luxembourg, would

guarantee minimum social rights for 322 million community citizens when the EEC scraps barriers to the free movement of goods, capital and people after 1992.

It would cover fair wages, sexual equality, the right to social security and worker participation in companies. Its aim is to ensure that businesses do not abuse new freedoms by moving where pay is lowest, unions weakest and regulations fewest.

British Employment Secretary (Minister) Norman Fowler "will make crystal clear the objectionableness of these proposals," a British spokesman said.

"We do not believe there's a case to try to bulldoze to one side customs, tradi-

tions and practice developed in one country merely to harmonise across the board," he said.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is adamant the EEC has no business deciding social policy and is determined to fight what she sees as creeping erosion of Britain's sovereignty.

Her blasts against "back-door socialism" have been the keynote of her European parliamentary election campaign. She says interference from Brussels is putting at risk 10 years of Conservative effort to reduce the state's role in Britain.

Papanandreu, an economist by training, former minister for industry, and the first woman to be nominated as an EEC

commissioner, said the rest of the community found some of Thatcher's arguments bizarre.

For instance, the British leader has called workers' participation on company boards tantamount to Marxism, yet it has long been commonplace in one of the community's most prosperous countries, West Germany.

Reaction to Papanandreu's plans is not split on north-south or left-right lines. "In fact, (northern) Christian Democrats are pushing harder than the (socialist) south," she pointed out.

Last week, centre-right Christian Democrat ministers of employment in West Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg jointly endorsed

her idea of a citizens' Europe, but complained her plans did not go far or fast enough.

Papanandreu, 44, no relation of Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papanandreu, came to Brussels as commissioner in January.

Tall and strong-featured, with a shock of black wavy hair, she got dubbed the tigress last year for her firm, efficient chairing of EEC ministers' meetings on the 1992 programme.

She hopes heads of government will endorse the charter with a unanimous "solemn declaration" either in Madrid, or at the end of the year in Paris. This would give the commission a mandate to draft detailed proposals for legislation.

Abu Dhabi tanker company capital up

ABU DHABI, United Arab Emirates, June 11, (AP): The Abu Dhabi government issued a decree today sharply increasing the capital of its national tanker company by 496 million dirhams (\$135.15 million).

Abu Dhabi is the leading emirate of seven federated in the southern Gulf state of the United Arab Emirates.

The decree, signed by Abu Dhabi's Crown Prince and the son of UAE's President Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, increased the declared capital of the Abu Dhabi National Tanker Company from 4 million dirhams (\$1.09 million) to 500 million dirhams (\$136.23 million).

The company celebrated its 14th anniversary in April this year, appointing new members to its board of directors selected by the Abu Dhabi's Supreme Petroleum Council.

A company official who did not wish to be identified by name told the Associated Press that the company "is now willing to move into the 1990s and steer its operations with confidence with a view to enhancing its position in the international tanker market."

The source refused to comment on reports that the increased capital will be spent for the purchase of a new fleet for the company.

"ADNATCO will always try to keep abreast of the development in the tanker market," said the source.

US businessmen in Kuwait Bid to seek partners for projects in Iraq

By Jadranka Porter
Arab Times staff

A DELEGATION of American businessmen is in Kuwait to seek funds and joint venture partners for projects in Iraq.

In its talks with Kuwaiti banks and government officials the US mission expressed hope that Kuwait, which supported Iraq throughout its war with Iran, would be willing to finance projects in the neighbouring state.

The Americans are keen on winning contracts but are less willing to put up funds for Iraqi projects.

"The US businessmen would feel a lot better if they could use someone else's money," said a delegation leader Robert Ruan II.

But the seven businessmen, who will also visit Iraq and

Turkey, discussed the possibility of American-financed projects as well and hinted at using long-term bonds as a means of funding the projects.

They expressed concern about the lack of investment guarantees for construction work in Iraq.

Partnership with Kuwaitis became a more attractive option for the Americans who signed an investment guaranty agreement with Kuwait last April. The agreement provides insurance coverage for US businessmen engaged in economic activity in Kuwait or with Kuwait. The US has no such arrangement with Iraq.

The interest in raising money internationally for the post-war reconstruction of Iraq has dwindled since the ceasefire in the Gulf war was announced last August. No new initiatives are

expected until a genuine peace treaty is signed by Iraq and Iran, a US embassy official said.

The American mission also discussed participation in Kuwait projects. Topping the list are Kuwait's massive landscaping programme which will go on through year 2005 and the Ministry of Defence F-18 requirement programme.

Kuwait last year signed a \$1.9 billion arms deal with Washington to purchase 40 advanced F-18 jet fighters and air-ground Maverick missiles. American firms are hoping to win some of the spin-off contracts but face tough competition from cheaper European and Asian firms.

Among other projects of interest to the mission are the extension of Kuwait University, construction of Subiya city and new chemical plants in Shuaiba.

Dollar reigns supreme in Sudan

KHARTOUM, June 11, (Reuters): Sudan's only seaport is shut to all travellers except pilgrims to Makkah, currency black marketers have been rounded up and new laws are being drafted to curb currency smuggling.

But few economists would bet on the government being able to win a long-running battle against illegal foreign exchange deals in a land where the US dollar reigns supreme.

The currency mafia — as the weekly newspaper Al-Ashaqqa dubbed it — has its own tactics to protect its deals in this impoverished nation's most sought-after currency.

The paper said dealers evaded police by using code when dealing by telephone, while big-time operators paid informers in government offices to keep them abreast of latest moves.

The government is losing patience. In May it arrested more than 50 dealers under emergency laws in force since 1985.

It banned all travel for Sudanese and foreigners alike, apart from Muslim pilgrims heading for Makkah, out of port Sudan or by boat north from Wadi Halfa for the month of June.

Interior Minister Mubarak Al Fadel Al Mahdi said some \$5 million were being smuggled out of Sudan every day.

Millions of dollars still change hands daily in Africa's largest country. Dealers loiter outside hotels frequented by Western aid workers but most deals are struck near banks where all foreign currency transactions should take place.

Banks can only buy dollars, not sell them, as the government faces a chronic shortage of hard currency. Black-market dollars often import goods the government cannot afford to buy.

The main source is an estimated \$1 million sent home every day by Sudanese working abroad, who shun the banks in favour of the more lucrative illegal rates.

The country's disastrous economic performance over the last decade has pummeled the Sudanese pound.

Foreign aid totals \$9.134b

TOKYO, June 11, (AP): Japan's aid to developing countries rose 22.5 per cent last year, to \$9.134 billion, second only to the United States' estimated \$9.8 billion, the Foreign Ministry announced today.

The ministry in an annual report said official development assistance (ODA) as a percentage of Japan's gross national product stood at 0.32 per cent, up from the previous year's 0.31 per cent.

Of the total, \$6.422 billion was provided directly to developing countries, it said. The amount included \$2.908 billion in grants, up 30.9 per cent, and \$3.514 billion in loans, up 16.1 per cent.

Mitterrand seeks ecology funds

Money needed to pay for research

PARIS, June 11, (Reuters): France wants to persuade its partners at a July economic summit of the seven richest nations to agree on new funds to help cut atmospheric pollution.

Money is needed to pay for environmental research, wider use of clean but expensive new technology in industry, and to help poor nations cut growing pollution levels, French government officials say.

French President Francois Mitterrand will step up political pressure for action next week when he hosts two days of talks among 150 scientists from around 40 countries on the wide-spread dangers of global pollution.

The scientists would link the economic and ecology needs of both rich and poor countries, the West and communist countries, the government officials said.

Experts from North America, the Soviet Union, Europe and Asia are also due to make recommendations on how technology can curb pollution and how they can evaluate the threat to the climate, the earth and oceans.

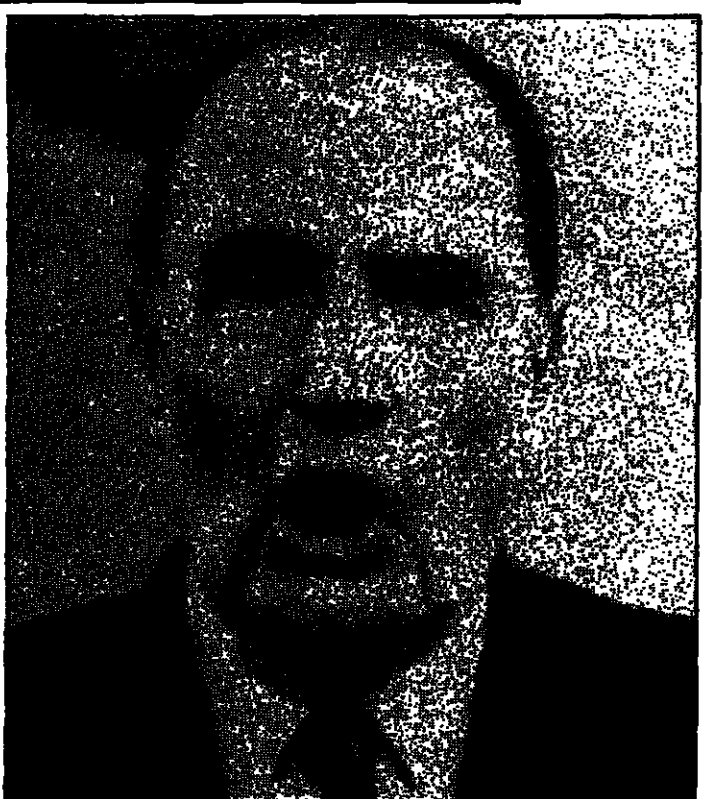
"It marks a preparatory step for the meetings of the heads of state and government which will take place in France in July," the Research Ministry, which organised the talks, said in a statement.

One environment official added: "The economic summit will be a key test in seeing whether the rich countries are ready to put their hands in their pockets."

"The question is whether the political momentum (for an environmental cleanup) can be kept up without some big international funding for research and technology transfers."

A French government source said negotiations on funds were continuing among the Group of Seven (G-7) summit countries — the United States, West Germany, Japan, France, Britain, Canada and Italy.

About one-third of the final



President Mitterrand

summit communiqué is likely to be devoted to the environment, the source said.

But so far there are no concrete indications of how much money, if any, heads of state will put up at the July meeting.

Mitterrand has singled out the "greenhouse effect" of threatened global warming as a top priority of the G-7 nations, which together account for more than 40 per cent of greenhouse gas pollution.

Scientists say man has upset the balance of the earth's protective atmosphere as transport and industry pour gases like carbon dioxide into the air.

Such gases trap the sun's heat and scientists have predicted this could raise temperatures between two and eight degrees cen-

tigrade in the next century with a devastating impact on agriculture.

Third World destruction of forests — for fuel and to clear land to grow food — cuts the world's natural ability to absorb excess carbon dioxide through photosynthesis, contributing to a 25 per cent increase in the gas since pre-industrial times.

Environmentalists warn poor countries will overtake rich nations as the top polluters as industrial development, combined with huge population increases, raise their toxic emissions.

They add that if poor nations, burned by \$1.3 trillion of debt, cannot afford clean new technology, this increase will swamp the West's environmental clean-up efforts.

Iceland won't stop whaling despite Greenpeace boycott

REYKJAVIK, Iceland, June 11, (AP): Iceland says it will never stop whaling and will survive an international boycott launched by the environmental group Greenpeace, just as it survived the "cold war" against Britain.

"We will never give it up come hell or high water. It would be the same as to underwrite our own verdict of execution," Foreign Minister Jon Baldvin Hannibalsson said in an interview.

Whaling is a tiny facet of the economy of this remote North Atlantic island and the vast majority of the 247,000 Icelanders don't even like whale meat.

But Iceland's existence depends on the sea, and the government won't relinquish sovereignty over any of its natural resources. In February 1988, the environmental activist group operation Greenpeace launched a boycott of Icelandic fish, which accounts for 75 per cent of the country's exports. The anti-

whaling campaign targeted three of Iceland's biggest markets: the United States, West Germany and Britain.

Ros Reeve, a Greenpeace campaigner who is in San Diego, California, for tomorrow's annual meeting of the International Whaling Commission, estimated in a telephone interview that Iceland may have lost up to \$50 million worth of contracts.

Hannibalsson said the boycott has forced the closure of several fish processing and canning factories, mainly in sparsely populated Northern Iceland, and several hundred people had lost their jobs.

Iceland says it has given up commercial whale hunting and is carrying out a four-year research programme approved by the Whaling Commission, which allowed the killing of 78 whales in 1988. "It is our sovereign right to carry out scientific research which is the basis for our fishing policy," Hannibalsson said.

"The results have so far proved beyond any doubt that it is totally wrong that we are over-exploiting whales," he said, noting researchers had counted more than 70,000 whales in Iceland's 200-mile (320-kilometre) economic zone.

However, Fisheries Minister Halldor Agnirsson has said it is unlikely that Iceland will go whaling in 1990.

Greenpeace says Iceland has submitted no data to the commission for verification and contends the programme is a cover for commercial whaling, which the commission halted from 1986 to 1990 to preserve endangered stocks.

The hunt is being carried out by a commercial whaling company and Iceland is selling whale meat to Japan, Greenpeace said.

Hannibalsson countered that the commission allows up to 49 per cent of whale meat to be exported.

Volatile market to be reviewed Copper exporters to meet

LUSAKA, June 11, (Reuters): Leading copper-exporting nations, most of them struggling with heavy foreign debts, will meet in Lusaka tomorrow to discuss ways of achieving stable outlets and prices for their copper in a sea-sawing world market.

The two-day conference of ministers and delegates of the eight-nation Intergovernmental Council of Copper Exporting Countries (CIPEC) comes at a time when the market for copper is finely balanced after soaring to record price highs in December.

Delegates said the CIPEC members — Chile, Peru, Zaire, Zambia, Indonesia, Australia, Papua New Guinea and Yugoslavia — would be taking a close look at current trends in production and consumption, prices, the state of copper stocks and conditions in the main markets of industrialised Western nations.

"Stable markets and stable prices, that's what we aim at," said one African delegate, who asked not to be named.


CIPEC members account for around 60 per cent of the world's exports of copper ore and concentrates and of unrefined and refined copper, excluding the communist Eastern bloc.

In many cases, their economies, weighed down by crippling foreign debts, are vulnerably dependent on copper exports.

Last December, prices for "cash" (immediate delivery) copper on the London Metal Exchange (LME) hit a record high of \$3,720 a tone, driven up by shortages in world supplies.


Since then, prices have eased amid forecasts by analysts that output will outstrip demand this year although the market remains volatile and hiccups in supply caused by labour disputes or technical problems at mines can still send prices up again.

As part of efforts to support the market, delegates said the CIPEC members would discuss details of a copper producers and consumers group being created under the auspices of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).



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VM/SP SYSTEM PROGRAMMER

Skills Requirements:

- Thorough knowledge of VM terminals and solid background in the following primary subsystems or system products: VM/SP, VM/ACF, VTAM, RSCS, PROFS, DISPLAYWRITE/370, DCF, VM/SPF, VM/GDDM, SOLDS, OMF, CSP/AD, CSP/AE, VM/REPL, DREBIT and VSE/VSAM.
- Ability to apply performance and tuning techniques; capability of performing system generation and maintenance, and ability to apply fixes to resolve problems in the system.

**COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK
SYSTEM PROGRAMMER**

Skills Requirements:

- Good background in the planning, installation and maintenance of large communications networks and good knowledge of communications front-end processors and other network products.
- Ability to customize various product generations for all the IBM 3725 communications controllers; solid background in the following communications software: NJE/RJE Support, NETVIEW, ACF/VTAM, EP, ACF/NCP and ACF/SSP.
- Determination/resolution of network software problems; capability of maintaining the network using NETVIEW and ability to interface with users and Network technicians.

APPLICATION PROGRAMMER

Skills Requirements:

- Thorough knowledge of the following: ADF Application Coding, IMS COBOL DB/DC, MVS JCL, TSO/ISPF, IMS Utilities, and Data Dictionary.
- Knowledge of the following skills would be helpful: ADF, DB/TOOLS, IMS Operator Commands, BVS, TSO, CUST, MFS, MVS and/or IMS Dump Reading, ADF and/or IMS Trace Facility and IMS Assembler.

KISR offers attractive tax free salaries commensurate with qualifications and experience and generous benefits that include free furnished air-conditioned accommodation, school tuition fees for children, annual paid vacation and air tickets. Minimum contract period is two years.

Interested applicants are requested to send their Curriculum Vitae with supporting information not later than two weeks from the date of this publication, to:

**Employment Section
Personnel Department
Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research
P. O. Box 24885, Safat
13109 Safat - Kuwait**

People are hungry 'for change'

Crippled economy is main challenge for Iran

TEHRAN, June 11, (Reuters): In Iran, where a lieutenant colonel may drive a taxi to make ends meet, reconstruction of a war-crippled economy is the top priority after the death of Ayatollah Khomeini.

"No way can I get by on my salary," said one such serving officer. "Before the revolution, I could have bought this car with a few months work. Now I can barely afford the spare parts."

After 10 years of revolutionary upheaval and eight years of war with Iraq, Iran's gross domestic product (GDP) is only about two-thirds of its 1977 level.

"Khomeini could give the people spiritual comforts to forget the difficulties. Now he's gone and the people are hungry for change," one Western diplomat said.

Many ordinary Iranians are now prepared to complain. Unemployment and inflation rates are high and foreign currency is short.

"At the top of our programmes are the economic problems of the country and the people," said Parliamentary Speaker Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani.

Rafsanjani, expected to be elected executive president in August, said the next decade of the revolution will be devoted to reconstruction, a bill officials estimate will run to over \$90 billion.

He said "bungling and bullying" by the West

meant it might not win a place in the race for contracts.

Instead, Iran was discussing a wide-ranging pact with the Soviet Union, part of what diplomats said was a trend towards economic links with Eastern bloc countries.

With little city building done in the past 10 years, much of the infrastructure is ageing although basic telephone, power and water services still work.

But factories built in the early 1980s in hope of an early end to the war are now dilapidated without ever having seen full production.

Iranian sources and diplomats estimate industry is running at an average of one third to one half of capacity.

"In one town I visited recently, virtually none of the 490 factories was working at all," said one Iranian economist.

Critical to industry is lack of cash to import machinery and raw materials as the state budget swallows up oil income, expected to reach \$12 billion in the year to March 1990.

Oil earns 90 per cent of Iran's foreign exchange and dollars are so scarce that they cost 1,400 rials each on the black market against an official rate of 73.65 rials.

A tangle of bureaucratic restrictions exacerbates the problem. One industrialist said that, to get plastic to make dolls, he had to import car light

mouldings and melt them down.

Rafsanjani said the government would follow a new five-year plan now before parliament. The plan, which would liberalise the state-dominated economy and ease foreign trade restrictions, sets targets of 5.7 per cent a year growth in GDP and 8.7 per cent in investment.

Some diplomats said proposals to cut expenditure and raise revenue were unrealistic. They noted that plans for a new value added tax had been postponed and social spending was budgeted to rise substantially.

"Also the arguments between the pro-state radicals and the pro-private sector people are far from over," one diplomat said.

One sign of a more liberal regime was Rafsanjani's statement that Islamic revolutionary limits on foreign borrowing would be eased, provided repayment was matched with income from the projects they financed.

Diplomats put Iran's current foreign debt at between \$6 and 10 billion. The inflation rate, estimated at between 20 and 40 per cent a year this decade, has far outstripped the rise in wages.

Crowds of jobless youths now drift around Tehran's bazaar. The unemployment rate, officially put at 15.9 per cent, could be as high as 40 per cent.

Soldiers gradually being demobilised after last August's ceasefire in the war with Iraq compete for

the available jobs with their young brothers.

A census in 1986 showed that 45 per cent of the population was aged under 15.

Officials are worried that the growth rate in the population, at more than three per cent of the highest in the world, will severely strain the frayed infrastructure.

Agricultural output has remained static and is threatened by increasingly scarce water supplies and a stalemate on land reform laws.

A mosque-based rationing system from the war is likely to keep the poor well fed in the near future, but diplomats say the large subsidies will undermine the budget.

A small dollar-rich class still lives in north Tehran but most recognise that they are dinosaurs of a species swept away by the 1979 Islamic revolution.

In their place, a class of bazaar merchant-middlemen made money in the war's early years and there has been a revolution in the attitudes of the long-suppressed peasantry.

"Before they were treated like dirt," one Iranian economist said. "There may not be much money around now, but as a result of the revolution a peasant can go into a bank, demand and get attention for his project."

"When there is money, things will happen fast," the economist said. "There's a hungry market of 50 million people ready and waiting."

Commercial flights planned



The Airbus A320 — first commercial flight to the Middle East for the IAE V2500-powered aircraft set for July.

DUBAI, June 11: The world's most advanced and fastest-selling airliner, the Airbus A320, will begin commercial flight to the Middle East from July 1.

Cyprus Airways, which has become only the second airline to receive the all-new International Aero Engines V2500-powered aircraft, has announced that it plans to use the A320 on its route from Larnaca to Dubai from the beginning of July.

The delivery comes only days after Adria Airways of Yugoslavia became the first airline to receive the new aircraft from Airbus Industrie.

Cyprus Airways will also take delivery of a further seven A320s over the next three years and plans to use them to satisfy traffic growth on its routes from Larnaca to Europe as well as the Middle East.

Each of the new aircraft will seat 165 passengers in a two-class configuration — 27 in business class and 138 in economy. The airline already operates four Airbus A310-200s.

Airbus A320 orders now stand at 466 from 25 customers with a total of 28 already delivered to six operators.

New thinking in the West urged Asia-Soviet trade set for higher growth

TRADE and commercial ties between Asia and the USSR will increase substantially by the turn of the century, according to Kim Woo-Choon, chairman and founder of Korea's Daewoo Group, in a speech to a conference in Moscow on opportunities for East-West economic co-operation. Calling for "new thinking" in the West and in the USSR towards Asia, he foresaw self-sustaining economic growth in the Asia-Pacific region by early in the 21st century.

Noting that "the opportunities for economic co-operation between the USSR and the nations of Asia are truly outstanding," Chairman Kim cautioned against the rising trends of regional trading blocs and protectionism, indicating that Asian countries might be forced to form a bloc of their own for their own survival.

Identifying a number of clues about the extent to which the USSR and Asia's newly industrialised countries could work and prosper together, Chairman Kim told the audience that geographic proximity to the Soviet Far East, the new atmosphere of co-operation and development and the warming of Soviet-Sino relationships were all contributing to the increasing optimism in the region.

Chairman Kim further predicted that economic development between the USSR and China "could spark and unprecedented degree of growth that will have a very positive impact in the rest of Asia and the world."

Kim suggested several areas where the USSR and Asia could co-operate, noting that a number of Asian countries, including the Republic of Korea, have begun to accumulate investment capital that could be used abroad.

Many of those countries were "no longer a source of 'cheap' labour, and that disappearing advantage is being replaced by a new advantage — a capable yet cost-competitive work force," he added, mentioning the skills and experience accumulated by Asian countries in construction and consumer goods in particular.

However, Kim stated that the benefits of co-operation between the USSR and Asia should not be in one direction only.

He cited the many areas, including aerospace and telecommunications, where Soviet technology leads that of Asia, and contrasted Asia's lack of natural resources with the Soviet Union's abundance.

Kim also called for "sharp scissors" to reduce institutional barriers, particularly the "bureaucratic red tape" in the USSR.

He highlighted the need for a more sophisticated legal system to protect mutual interests, and for innovative solutions for bypassing the current non-contractibility of the route.

Kim concluded his speech with direct praise for the entrepreneurial spirit and the contribution it can make "to a nation — and to the world in which we live."

The conference, entitled "The Soviet Union in the 1990s — Perestroika and Global Opportunities for East-West Economic Co-operation," was held in Moscow on June 7 through 8 co-sponsored by The International Herald Tribune, Ekonomicheskaya Gazeta, a Soviet economic weekly, and the USSR Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The Daewoo Group, established in 1967, is engaged in trading world-wide through more than 70 overseas offices, as well as domestic and international construction, shipbuilding and the manufacture of cars, heavy machinery, aircraft components, consumer electronics, telecommunications equipment, textiles and other products. It also has investments in financial services.

US inflation not yet under control

Fed eases year-long grip on credit

NEW YORK, June 11, (UPI):

There was good news on the economic front this week as the government eased credit, wholesale prices suggested inflation may have peaked, banks lowered the prime interest rate and OPEC reached an agreement that may top off the rise in world oil prices.

The merger mania, however, marked Time Inc. for a takeover fight and touched such diverse companies as Eastern Airlines, Lin Broadcasting, CNW Corp. and Pennzoil Co.

The Labour Department reported Friday that its producer price index rose 0.9 per cent last month, twice the rise expected.

But analysts said concentration of the increase in the volatile food and energy sectors meant that inflation, which is running at an annual rate of 9.4 per cent, may have peaked.

There was good inflation news on oil prices Wednesday from the mid-year Vienna meeting of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, whose production hold down for the first six months of 1989 has driven crude prices up by as much as \$7 a barrel.

The 13-nation organisation agreed to raise its 18.5 million barrel daily ceiling by one million barrels.

But international currency traders interpreted the larger-than-expected rise in the

wholesale index as meaning inflation was not yet under control — lessening the possibility the Federal Reserve Board would ease credit further.

The index sent the dollar sharply higher to well above 2 West German marks and 145 Japanese yen.

On Tuesday, the Fed eased its year-long grip on credit by lowering its closely watched federal funds rate — the rate banks charge other banks for short-term loans.

Move

In anticipation of the Fed's move, the nation's major banks on Monday cut the prime lending rates they charge their best customers to 11 per cent from 11.5 per cent.

The prime rate had risen six consecutive times from May 1988 to the last increase in February when it was raised to 11.5 per cent.

Time Inc. was the target of a hostile takeover bid Wednesday by Paramount Communications Inc., formerly known as Gulf and Western.

The 10.7 billion bid came two weeks before time shareholders were due to vote on a proposed merger with Warner Communications Inc.

Time and Warner were trying to engineer a swap of their stock that would make Time less digestible to Paramount, which went to court in an attempt to stop the

manoeuvre.

A merger with either Warner or Paramount, which are major producers of television programmes, would result in a global media giant since Time has large cable television holdings, which buy these programmes.

McCaw Cellular Communications, seeking to expand its presence in the national cellular telephone market, made a \$5.8 billion buyout offer for Lin Broadcasting Corp.

McCaw announced Tuesday it was offering to buy all outstanding shares of New York-based Lin Broadcasting for \$120 a share.

The Kirkland, Washington-based McCaw already owns 9.8 per cent of Lin's 54 million shares, making the total value of the Lin stock worth about \$6.5 billion.

On Tuesday, CNW Corp. target of an unsolicited \$721 million tender offer by Japonica partners, said it had accepted a competing, \$1.6 billion merger offer by a group that includes senior CNW management and Union Pacific Corp.

CNW Corp. is the parent of Chicago and North Western Transportation Co., which operates commuter rail service in the Chicago area and freight service linking Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, South Dakota, Wisconsin and Wyoming.

IMF team to visit Egypt

CAIRO, June 11, (Reuters): A top-level International Monetary Fund (IMF) delegation starts talks in Cairo tomorrow to try to hammer out an accord on rescheduling Egypt's heavy foreign debt, sources close to the talks said.

They could not say whether the talks were likely to produce agreement on the debt, estimated at \$50 billion in total.

Egypt, struggling with food shortages and rising prices, hopes the IMF will approve a letter of intent this month to allow it to reschedule \$4 billion of debt at the Paris Club of creditor nations.

The IMF has linked its approval for rescheduling with a package of economic reforms, including cutting the budget deficit by reining in public spending and reducing subsidies.

Cairo has resisted heavy public spending cuts, fearing bread riots like those which erupted in 1977.

In a draft budget presented to Parliament yesterday, the government pledged to cut the budget deficit to 4.9 billion Egyptian pounds (\$1.9 billion) next year from a record \$7.2 billion (\$2.8 billion) this year.

Taiwanese rush for gold

TAIPEI, June 11, (Reuters): The turmoil in China has brought a sudden rush for gold in Taiwan, bullion dealers said on Friday.

"Our sales of gold bars rose between two and three times this week," said Judy Yeh, assistant vice-president of the China Trust Precious Metals Corporation, Taiwan's leading bullion importer.

She said her company was doubling gold imports from Switzerland to meet growing demand but declined to give figures.

"I believe the current shopping spree for gold will continue at least for the next two weeks," Yeh said.

Taiwan's gold imports in May plunged to 12.01 tonnes worth \$149 million from 17.58 tonnes valued at 223 million in April and 38.01 tonnes worth \$466 million a year ago, according to the Finance Ministry.

A ministry official said the decline was mainly due to a suspension of gold imports by the Central Bank, which had not purchased the metal since last July.

The government stopped buying gold from the United States after criticism from Washington that the imports were Taipei's way of artificially reducing its huge trade surplus with the United States.

The rush to buy gold, mostly by individuals, in Taiwan was expected to push June gold imports higher, dealers said.

"We expect the June imports to rise possibly to 20 tonnes," Judy Yeh said.

A Japanese dealer said the rush for gold was owing to expectations for price increases as a result of the chaos in China.

"How long the momentum will be kept depends on the situation in China," he said.

KUWAIT

AMMAN

BANK SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
NATIONAL BANK	0.960	---	---	---	---	---
GULF BANK	0.360	---	---	---	---	---
COMMERCIAL BK	0.265	0.265	0.265	0.260	190000	11
ABLI BANK	0.315	---	---	---	---	---
B.K.M.E	0.325	---	---	---	---	---
K.R.E.B.	0.340	---	---	---	---	---
BURGANK	0.260	0.260	0.260	0.260	40000	4
K.F.HOUSE	0.470	0.470	0.470	0.470	150000	7
INVESTMENT SECTOR						
KMT INV. CO.	0.097	---	---	---	---	---
K.F.T.C.T.C.	0.210	---	---	---	---	---
K.I.I.C.	0.066	---	---	---	---	---
COM.FACILITIES	0.415	---	---	---	---	---
AMLIAN INV.	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
I.F.A.	0.043	---	---	---	---	---
INV. PEARL KWT	0.087	---	---	---	---	---
NATIONAL INV.	0.068	0.066	0.067	0.066	760000	11
KMT PROJECTS	0.082	0.082	0.082	0.082	80000	2
INSURANCE SECTOR						
KWT INSURANCE	0.570	---	---	---	---	---
GULF INSURANCE	0.320	---	---	---	---	---
AHLIA INS. CO.	0.480	---	---	---	---	---
MARBA INS. CO.	0.365	---	---	---	---	---
REAL ESTATE SECTOR						
KMT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.132	---	---	---	---	---
UNI R.E.S.T. CO.	0.055	---	---	---	---	---
NAT R.E.S.T. CO.	0.180	---	---	---	---	---
SALMIAN R.E.	0.080	---	---	---	---	---
KMT R.E.I. CON	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
INDUSTRY SECTOR						
NAT IND. CO.	0.500	---	---	---	---	---
KMT M.P. IND.	0.300	---	---	---	---	---
KMT CEMENT CO.	0.170	---	---	---	---	---
REF. IND. CO.	0.380	---	---	---	---	---
N.A.M.T. CO.	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
GULF CABLE	0.970	---	---	---	---	---
K.P.H. IND. CO.	0.166	---	---	---	---	---
COM.MARINE	0.300	---	---	---	---	---
K.S.H. REP. CO.	0.045	---	---	---	---	---
SERVICES SECTOR						
OVERLAND TRANS	0.082	---	---	---	---	---
K.N.C. CO.	0.180	---	---	---	---	---
KWT HOTELS CO.	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
P.WAREHOUSING	0.138	---	---	---	---	---
COM.MKT. CMPLX.	0.081	---	---	---	---	---
MOBILE TELE.	0.300	0.300	0.300	0.300	10000	1
KMT COMPUTER	0.148	---	---	---	---	---
FOOD SECTOR						
LIVESTOCK T.T.	0.150	---	---	---	---	---
UNTD FISHERIES	0.146	---	---	---	---	---
UNTD POULTRY	0.230	---	---	---	---	---
KMT FOODS	0.290	---	---	---	---	---
AGRI. FOOD PRD.	0.150	---	---	---	---	---
NON-KWT SECTOR						
BHK. INTER. BK	0.064	---	---	---	---	---
BHK. M. EAST. BK	0.047	---	---	---	---	---
COAST. INVEST.	0.082	---	---	---	---	---
A.G. INV. GRP.	0.031	0.031	0.031	0.031	180000	2
FRST. GULF BK	0.850	---	---	---	---	---
BHK. M. GRP.	0.078	---	---	---	---	---
GULF MEDICAL	0.033	---	---	---	---	---

KUWAIT STOCK EXCHANGE

COMPANIES LISTED ON THE PARALLEL MARKET	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
FINANCIAL SECTOR	P.CLS	LT	HIGH	LOW	VOL	TRADE
GULF INTL INS.	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
ARAB INT. CO.	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
SHARJAH INS.	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
GULF UNION INS.	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
R.K. WHITE CNT	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
ALJANAH CEMENT	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
INDUSTRIAL SECTOR						
B-FUJAIH CEMENT	0.000	---	---	---	---	---
C-SHARJAH CEMENT	0.010	---	---	---	---	---
D-GULF CEMENT	0.010	---	---	---	---	---

COMPANY	OPNG	CLSG
ALA-ADDIN COMPANY	2.28	2.27
ARAB ALUMINUM IND.	2.22	2.27
ARAB BANK	148.0	148.0
ARAB CHEMICAL DTR	4.61	4.61
ARAB FINANCE CORP.	1.71	1.73
ARAB INSURANCE	1.02	1.01
ARAB INT. INV/TRADE	0.66	0.69
ARAB INT. UNION INS.	1.11	1.16
ARAB INTER. HOTELS	1.34	1.37
ARAB JOR/INV/STK	2.37	2.37
ARAB PAPER COM/TRADE	0.35	0.35
ARAB PHARMA. MANF.	3.55	3.58
ARAB PHARMA/CHIEF	1.65	1.73
ARAB POTASH CO.	---	---
ARABIAN SEAS INS.	1.65	1.65
BANK OF JORDAN	15.00	15.20
BEIT AL-MAL/BEITMA	1.06	1.10
BELGIUM INSURANCE	1.00	0.95
CAIRO AMMAN BANK	29.50	29.00
COMFECT/CHOCOLATE	1.05	1.25
DAR AL SHAAB PRESS	0.29	0.30
DAR ALDAMA DV/INV.	2.60	2.65
DARCO/INVEST/HOUSE	0.81	0.81
FINANCE/COM/TRADE	4.60	4.60
FINANCE/OWNERS OFF	2.39	2.63
GENERAL INVESTMENT	1.27	1.25
GENERAL MINING.	2.10	2.10
HIMAN MINERALS	0.75	0.75
HOLY LAND INS.	1.44	1.44
IND./WATCH JESCO	0.90	0.95
INDSTR. DEVLPT. BNK	1.70	1.70
INDSTR./COMM/AGR.	1.80	1.80
INDUSTRIAL INVEST.	0.75	0.75
INTERN. COM/INV	0.13	0.13
IRBID ELECTRICITY	0.90	0.85
ISLAMIC INV. HOUSE	0.64	0.64
INTERMED/PETRI/CH	2.15	2.18
J. TOUR-SP COMPLEX	0.79	0.80
JERUSALEM INS.	1.26	1.29
JO TOBACCO/CIGARET	19.50	19.50
JOR CERAMIC FACTOR	2.07	2.06
JOR ELEC. INS.	25.05	25.05
JOR ELECTRIC POWER	1.50	1.51
JOR FINANCE HOUSE	1.20	1.22
JOR GLASS INDUSTRY	1.02	1.02
JOR HOTEL TOURISM	2.30	2.18
JOR INDUSTRY CHEM.	2.48	2.47
JOR INS AND FIN.	1.20	1.20
JOR LEASING CORP.	0.79	0.83
JOR LIM BRICK	0.19	0.18
JOR MANAG/CONSULT	0.50	0.50
JOR NATIONAL BANK	2.48	2.48
JOR PAPER CARDBRGG	3.85	3.95
JOR PHOSPHATE MINS	3.90	3.90
JOR PIPES MANUFACT	2.31	2.32
JOR PRESS/PUBLISH.	0.79	0.79
JOR PRINTING/PACK.	4.25	4.25
JOR ROCK WOOL IND.	1.10	1.13
JOR SECURIT CORP	1.12	1.11
JOR SELPHO CHEM.	2.17	2.28
JOR WOOD INDUSTRY	2.48	2.47
JOR WORSTED MLL	4.65	4.70
JOR. KUWAIT AGR.	0.91	0.91
JOR. PETROLIUM REF	7.81	7.79
JOR. FRENCH INS.	5.45	5.45
JOR. INV. FIN. CORP	2.50	2.50
JORDANIAN GULF REAL	0.35	0.35
JORDAN DAIRY	1.10	1.16
JORDAN GULF BANK	1.15	1.15
JORDAN GULF INS.	0.94	0.95
JORDAN INSURANCE	3.05	3.66
JORDAN ISLAMIC BNK	2.05	2.07
JORDAN KUWAIT BANK	1.44	1.45
JORDAN TANNING	1.96	1.95

INDIAN VIDEO ROUND UP

Misplaced metaphors

By Fathima Ahmed
Arab Times staff

R.K. NAYYAR'S controversial: Pati Parmeshwar faced trouble with the censors (in India) and has been dubbed as an anti-feminist movie. After all the hue and cry over its contents, it is no better or worse than an average, pretentious Hindi film that flies the feminist flag. Pati Parmeshwar makes no pretence; it admits that it is trying to show the strength of a woman who can face humiliation and bounce back as a rubber ball.

A woman, says a narrator at the start of the film, is like the earth: unshakable, a misplaced metaphor. Women are living, breathing, sensible human beings. How can one say a film like Pati Parmeshwar is watchable or even credible? It degrades women, telling them to rebound after senseless

humiliation.

It is about Rekha, a *sati savitri* (pure and humble) woman, who is taken for a ride by her callous, conniving husband Vijay, played by Shekhar Suman. Vijay has a mistress; Rekha is put to work a day after her wedding, washing, cooking and cleaning; her jewels are taken away by her in-laws; her husband beats her; her mother-in-law's sarcastic remarks never stop and, to make matters worse, she decides to put up with them.

What's nice about the theme is a touch of poetic justice thrown in for good measure. Vijay, who keeps a mistress, suffers paralysis. But this sense of justice is short lived as dear Mr Vijay makes his wife push

his wheelchair to meet Tara, his mistress. And his miraculous recovery further slackens credibility, if there is any.

Dimple Kapadia as Tara looks ravishing as the seductress who wants to destroy Vijay. Sucha Chandran, who bounced back as a dancer after a tragic accident and the amputation of a limb, is exploited in the movie. Shekhar Suman as Vijay lives up to his hateful role.

Bade Ghar Ki Beti
Kalpataru's *Bade Ghar Ki Beti* is a family social like the ones Gemini was once known for. It's a fantasy, a movie with a "they live happily ever after" ending, but not before the mother is thrown out by greedy offsprings and is reduced to begging on the streets before her rescue by the "good, god-fearing son."

Shammi Kapoor, the romantic of yesteryears, returns as the head of the family. Although he has lost his romantic lustre, he still retains his charisma and plays an adorable father who is deceived by his sons — Muri (Satish Shah), Manohar (Raj Kiran) and Giridhar (Gulshan Grover). Only Gopal (Rishi



Rekha

Kapoor) helps him out of a tight spot.

Meenakshi Seshadri plays Mala, the girl who binds them together after scores of misunderstandings.

The sub-plot has Kader Khan in a comic role as a stutterer who makes a fool of himself. Asrani and others support him in the comic interludes.

The duets, picturised on Rishi and Meenakshi, are also entertaining.

Of last week's releases, this seems to be the most tolerable offering.

Garibon Ka Daata

As the title suggests *Garibon Ka Daata* is the poor man's saviour, the man who fights for the masses and sees that justice is done. Mithun Chakraborty plays the title role.

An off the formula track theme changes the stereotype of the saviour from the gutsy, angry young man to a slightly down to earth character. Mithun plays Gopal, the carefree village actor who takes on the "role of a government" officer to suppress oppression.

In the farce, he not only manages to speak English but recites couplets from the Bible to prove his new identity. Of course, he is helped by a real investigator.

Gyandev Agnihotri's story

incites people to react to oppression in all forms and break social taboos. In its own contrived manner, it succeeds. Director Ramesh Ahuja manages to turn the story into a fantasy adventure that you can watch after a hard day's work, to relax your mind.

The above movies are by courtesy of Alhadi Video, Main St., Farwaniya, Tel: 4712800; and Falcon Video, Albasia.



Mithun



Rishi Kapoor



Raj Kiran

TELEVISION PROGRAMMES

KTV 1

- 9.00 Holy Quran
- 9.15 Sabah Al Khair
- 9.30 Variety
- 9.30 Ifrah Ya Simsim
- 10.00 Magazine D'Actualite
- 10.15 Hikayat Sakhiyat: Arabic serial (Part 9)
- 11.00 Varieties
- 11.20 Al Zab Ayoun Al Madina: Arabic serial (Part 9)
- 12.35 Cultural Film
- 1.00 News Summary
- 1.05 The World News via Satellite
- 1.30 Falouna: cartoon
- 2.00 Varieties
- 2.15 Abu Awadh: Arabic serial (Part 9)
- 3.00 Mawsoat Al Suna Al Nabawiya: religious programme
- 3.30 Cartoon serial
- 4.00 Meerath Al Sineen: religious historical Stories (Part 2)
- 5.45 Al Atfal Wa el Saief (Children and Summer)
- 7.00 Alam Al Ghad (the World of Tomorrow): cultural programme
- 7.30 Varieties
- 7.45 Holy Quran and Science
- 8.30 Amisyat Al Ethnin: local programme, prepared and presented by Mohammed Al Barjes
- 9.00 News in Arabic
- 10.00 Illi Ma'a Qursh: daily

- Arabic serial (Part 4)
- 10.45 Al Boustagi: Arabic feature film
- 12.20 News Summary
- 12.45 The World News via Satellite

KTV 2

- 6.00 Holy Quran
- 6.10 Bionic Six: cartoon series
- 6.30 Wild America: "Remarkable Reptiles." A look at reptiles in the forests of North America.
- 7.00 Roving Report: weekly roundup of world and regional affairs.
- 7.30 Charles-in-Charge: "Lillian Puts a Round." Charles' mother pays a surprise visit
- 8.00 News in English
- 8.40 Paradise: "The Stray Bullet." The owner of a bank is hit by a

- bullet, and the detective investigates
- 9.30 227: "Blues." Brenda receives a gift of blues music from her grandfather. Comedy
- 10.00 Alfred Hitchcock Presents: "Hunted." Part 2. Edward Woodward plays the "hunter" who takes a hostage in a high-rise building
- 10.30 French Series: One Cop, One Judge. "Le Dragneur." A police officer is assigned to find evidence against a prominent personality, allegedly involved in smuggling
- 12.00 News Summary/ Magazine D'Actualite/ Cutdown

Please note that programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Granada Pharmacy
Fahad Al Salem St., Al Rashed Building
Al Kawthar Pharmacy
Abdullah Al Mubarak St.
Hawalli and Nagra
Al Waleed Pharmacy
Hawalli, Tunis St.

Salmiya and Rumailhiya
Al Bader Pharmacy
Salmiya, Blak St. Al Huda Complex
Fahad and Almadhi
Al Sheeba Pharmacy
Fahad
Jeeb Al Shiyoohk
Al Hasawiya Pharmacy
Main St. Plot 3.
Jabra
Al Noor Pharmacy
El Matafi St.

CINEMA

Al Andalus
Booby Trap
Starring: Christine David, Davin Hollinger
Al Salmiya
Beetle Juice
Starring: Michael Keaton, Gina Davis
Al Hamra
Arees Fi Al Ya Naseeb (Arabic)
Starring: Samir Ghanem, Dalal Abdul Aziz
Drive-In
Alaish Dakl Al Jaish (Arabic)
Al Firdous
Mardangi (Hindi)
Starring: Hemant Birje, Tara Singh
Fahad Open-Air
Jhoota Kahin Ka
Fahad
Big Business
Al Jabra
Mutant
Gramad
Moving
Sulabikhat
Welcome to 18
Al Jeeb
El Motho Bhaat
Almadhi Drive-In
Italian Boys

PRAYERS

Fajr	3.13 am
Zuhr	11.48
Asr	3.22 pm
Maghreb	6.48
Isha	8.20

WHAT'S ON

ARTS

Kuwait Science Museum
OPEN Saturday to Wednesday, 8-9 pm only. Natural history exhibits from in and around Kuwait, including blue whale. Closed on Thursday and Friday.

Islamic Arts Museum
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon and 7.00 to 10.00 pm. Collection includes rare Islamic artefacts, Quranic manuscripts, ceramics, carpets and marine equipment. Arabian Gulf St.

Sadu House
SAT - Thurs: 9 am to 12 noon, 7 to 10 pm. Exhibits include bedouin handicrafts — rugs, saddle bags, cushions and textiles. Closed on Friday.

THEATRE

Konkani Drama
JUNE 15/16 (4.00 pm): Nashibacho Divo Paloulo, the MAR production's Konkani drama, directed by Prem Kumar to be staged at the Indian Arts Circle. For entry passes contact Raja Stores, tel: 2412970.

FILMS

British Council
JUNE 11/12: Tootsie is this month's feature film at the British Council, Mansouriya. Dustin Hoffman plays Tootsie. Desperate, he took a female role and became a star. Comedy at its best.

Also stars Sydney Pollack, who also directs, and Jessica Lange. It will be shown at 6.30 pm on both nights. Duration 112 minutes. Admission free but it is advisable to reserve seats. Tel: 251-5512; 253-3204.

SOCIAL

Kuwait Players
JUNE 12 (Monday): All members of Kuwait Players are reminded that the AGM will take place at the Messilah Beach Hotel, Al Foz room at 7.30 pm. The group needs new members for next season so if you wish to help please come along. Renewal of membership will take place after the meeting.

KAPILKU meeting
JUNE 14 (Wednesday): There will be an officer's meeting at 8 pm at Far East Restaurant, details to be discussed are as follows: Palarong Pilipino (annual, sponsors, plaque of appreciation and awarding ceremonies) and other forthcoming projects (Little Mr & Ms Philippines — Kuwait and KAPILKU Night).

Narhena
JUNE 15 (Thursday): Narhena celebrates Nehru Centenary year at Sharq Co-operative Society hall at 6.30 pm. A variety of Indian classical, folk dances and Nritthastilpas would highlight the event. To obtain your free entry passes, please contact 4337608.

Promotion

THE first draw of the "Like-Crush three faces promotion," will take place on June 17, at 10 am at the 7 UP Bottling Co., Kuwait.

Bangladeshi get-together
BANGLADESHI Engineers and architects in Kuwait will hold a get-together at the Hotel Plaza Ballroom on June 15 from 7.30 pm onwards. For details contact 4317145, 4718157 or 3713923.

Get-together
JUNE 16: The Go-Go Club will be having a get-together at the Ramada Al Salem Hotel from 11 am onwards with Stepping Stones and Symphony in attendance. For details contact Tony 2631826 after 3.30 pm.

HOTELS

Kuwait International GARDEN POOL: Kubli Khan Mongolian barbecue every Friday afternoon. Mix and match your lunch while it is prepared according to your palate. Ext. 8006.

La Patisserie: Serves Continental breakfast and afternoon tea. Kiwi cake is the cake of the week. Pianist in the evenings. Ext. 8014.

At the Meridian

HOTEL Meridian Kuwait features special weekly promotion at La Brasserie restaurant: Asian Corner every Saturday, Monday and Wednesday. A wide variety of Asian dishes, in addition to the regular buffet, will be featured. Tempura, fried noodles, etc. are prepared in front of the guests and served on the spot.

Mexican Night every Sunday: Discover the delight of Mexican cuisine awaiting you in our 'Little Mexico'.

Greek Tavern every Tuesday: Experience authentic Greek ambience and food with live Bouzouki music and wide variety of mezzah.

Enjoy an evening of foot-tapping fun every Thursday. Remy and Tony's jam session in La Brasserie.

Family day every Friday: Enjoy a day with your family. La Brasserie offers a wide array of Oriental favourites along with live music, entertainment, and a magician to thrill the little ones and many other games for the children.

At the Kuwait International CHILDREN'S party: Every Friday from June 23 up to July 7, Kermit, Donald Duck, Fozzie Bear, many other playmates, a huge Kiddie Castle, games, puppet shows and video fun promise to make it an entertaining day for the children. KDS for adults and KD 3 for children. Tickets on sale at reception: 2530000/8039.

La Patisserie: Continental breakfast. Pianist and harpist in the evenings.

La Palma presents a culinary trip around the world featuring authentic Chinese, Indian, Mexican, African, Italian, British, German, Turkish and Arabic dishes. Theme nights on Tuesdays and Saturdays, ext 8166.

Garden pool: Relax by the pool and enjoy our American barbecue on June 16, Friday.

At the SAS Hotel

AT the Bistrotto: SAS Hotel's Italian restaurant, designed to create a cool atmosphere, is a perfect setting for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Enjoy Friday brunch with the whole family.

Peacock Room: Experience the feel of the Orient. Come have lunch and dinner with us; Chinese cuisine prepared by our Chinese chef Von Kwee Kiong.

Al Boom: Dine in a perfect Kuwaiti dhow; fine selection of

charcoal grills; extensive mezzah buffet and Al Boom daily specials; also open for lunch on Thursdays and Fridays.

Clock: The only drive-in restaurant in town. Serves varied fast food items plus specialties. Eedam: Come and try our daily specials. We also have a diet corner for weight watchers.

At the Plaza WEEKEND package deal at the Kuwait Plaza. A special deal for those who are looking for fun, entertainment, relaxation and enjoyment. Pay only KD7 and spend two days at Plaza. Single room KD10. Don't miss this opportunity, spend your summer vacation at Kuwait Plaza the most unexpensive vacation you ever dreamed of.

Traditional Arabic music by Fawzi Jamal will entertain you at the Noura Terrace. The only open air terrace in the middle of Kuwait city where you enjoy green scenery, delicious food, backgammon and hubble-bubble.

International music, Marco Polo the Italian restaurant in Kuwait features music with a difference. All kinds of light jazz, pop and Western music by the most celebrated duo in town — Stan and Alice. For reservation contact — 2438800.

At the Continental
THE Gardenia, at the Kuwait Continental hotel open from 7 am to midnight, offers dinner buffet on Thursdays. The buffet features grilled specialties. The Friday lunch features Indian, Arabic and continental cuisine. The Dabar offers an Indian buffet lunch daily except Fridays and a la carte for dinner.

SPORTS

Recreation Centre
SWIMMING lessons available at the Holiday Inn Health Club and recreation centre. Separate ladies and mens keep fit classes with Steve and Chris Hill on Mondays at 6 to 7 pm. Also ladies aerobics and mixed aerobics with Touvi Pakasalo. Yoga and bowling alley available for company tournaments. Squash handicap tournament for all standards and squash coaching available from our squash instructors. Also tennis coaching, martial arts starting on Sunday, June 4 and on following Sundays (6.30 to 7.30 pm) mixed classes. Additional facilities available under the supervision of selected professionals. For details contact the recreation department, tel. No. 4742000 ext. 6788 or 6700.

● All entries for the What's On column can be sent by telex (22352) to Events section or hand delivered daily, except Thursday, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuwaikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

Demonstration

A PRESENTATION and live fire demonstration on a dummy mode of floating roof oil storage tank, and extinguishing the fire using Saval automatic Halon 1211 systems, will be held today at the KPC training centre. It has been organised by the Maseelah Trading Company. Will be attended by the Dutch ambassador to Kuwait and the director-general of the Fire Brigade Department will be present at the demonstration.

**Octave musical evening**

The Octave Musical Group held a concert at the Indian Arts Circle on Friday. A selection of Malayalam and other regional language songs was presented by members of the group. Above: some of the singers on stage.

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- Must have at least 5 years' experience
- An English & Arabic speaker

For interview please call 4837371-2

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2. Valid & transferable residence
3. At least 5 years' experience
4. Good knowledge of Kuwaiti market
5. English and Arabic speaking

For interview please call 4837371-2

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An Indian boy, 8 years old, works in a brass factory where temperatures hit 100°F



Colombia: children in a brick factory and (right) a street cleaner.



A Colombian brickworker ... 5 years old



Child slavery: a world-wide phenomenon

Earning their daily bread

ALL over the world there are children working like slaves. They beg on the streets, toil under the sun in fields and plantations, and work day and night in sweatshops and factories.

Millions of children lose the health and happiness of childhood in the desperate attempt to earn their daily bread. Many have lost their parents, some have even been sold by them to keep the family from starvation.

From the wealthiest countries to the most impoverished, children are being cruelly exploited.

■ In Colombia, thousands of boys as young as 10 spend long hours underground in coal mines and emerald mines. Even younger ones work in the brick factories. In the gold fields of Ghana, children work in the processing plant where lethal cyanide fumes fill their heads. They work naked and are carefully searched to ensure they do not steal gold.

■ In Malaysia, children of the rubber tappers and palm oil harvesters toil beside their

parents on the plantations, never knowing any other kind of life.

■ In India, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, young children help with the weeding, clearing and spraying on the tea plantations. When the girls are tall enough to reach the tops of the bushes, they join their mothers picking the leaves.

■ On the streets of Mexico City and Acapulco, children as young as three sell chewing gum to pedestrians. Throughout South America there are millions of children hustling on the streets. Most of them live rough after breaking from their families, and this leads to drugs, crime and prostitution. Many of them don't reach adulthood.

■ In Brazil, children work on the coffee, cocoa and sugar plantations—just like their slave ancestors. Others head for the cities, hoping to make their fortunes, but they end up scavenging on the rubbish tips.

India
Some 44 million children in India work in every kind of job.

They toil in burning furnaces with molten glass and white-hot brass, they make matches and fireworks, they weave woollen carpets and silk saris, and they carry brick on building sites.

Many of the children are "bonded"—slaves by another name. Officially, they are working off a debt incurred by their parents. In practice, they never leave the appalling conditions of the sweatshops and factories.

In February, 15 boys aged nine to 13 were released from bondage in a carpet shop in Tilthi near Mirapur in northern India. They all came from the impoverished Pelamu district in the neighbouring state of Bihar. Their desperate parents had been paid a small advance for their services and were promised that the children would be paid and looked after.

In fact, they were forced to work 16 hours a day, fed on lentils and rice, and paid nothing. They had to go to sleep by their looms and were often beaten.

A group of lawyers and jour-

nalists called the Bonded Liberation Front finally took on the carpet barons and the boys were allowed to go back to their parents.

They were the lucky ones. Thousands of others are still weaving the carpets that will one day adorn the floors of the wealthy in the West.

Other children will be seen begging in the teeming, chaotic city streets. Most likely these children will be organised beggars working for a boss who will keep their meagre takings.

Thailand
For many children Bangkok is a hell hole. They flood into the city from the north of Thailand looking for work.

Labour agencies send women into the villages "fishing" for children. The parents are offered £50—a year's wages—as an advance on their child's work for a year or two. Many never see their children again. They vanish into Bangkok's maze of sweatshops and brothels.

They are as many as two million working children, and one million child prostitutes aged from nine to 10 in Thailand.

Ten-year-old Varaporn and her eight-year-old brother Narat were sent to work in Bangkok when their parents were divorced. They thought they were lucky to find work in a goldsmith's workshop, but their boss turned out to be a tyrant. They were beaten regularly and forced to work from eight in the morning to midnight with only short breaks for meagre meals. Eventually Varaporn was beaten so hard that her neck was broken. After six weeks in hospital she is still partially paralysed.

Behaviour like this is allowed by the corrupt authorities who are themselves in the pay of the sweatshop owners.

In a separate racket, babies and toddlers are kidnapped from their homes and sold across the border to wealthy Malaysians. Some are wanted for adoptions, others as servants. Some reports

say children are trained to smuggle drugs.

Portugal

Child exploitation doesn't only happen in the Third World. In America children work in the fields. In the East End of London young girls put in hours of work in family workshops after school.

In Europe, Portugal and Italy also have bad names for using

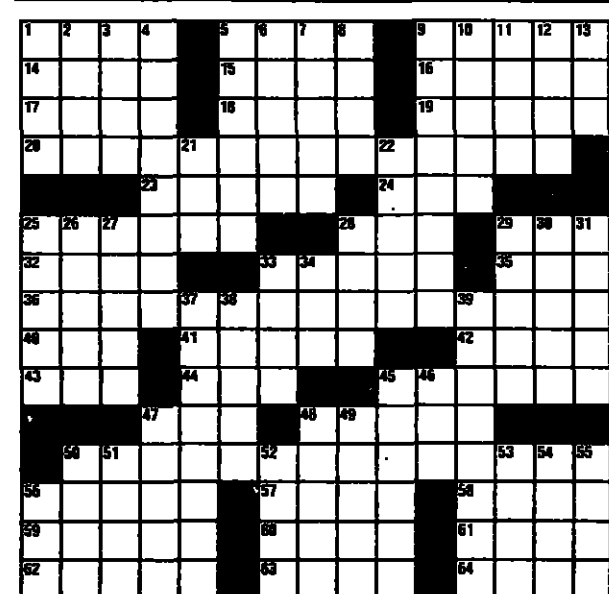
child labour. In Portugal, thousands of children work full-time in the textile and shoe factories. A lot of what they make ends up in our high streets.

Gracinda's story is typical. On her twelfth birthday she trudged down the road to collect the shoe leather she sews at home for a living. It was on this road that she was hit by a speeding car, and her skull was fractured. The accident

and a sick mother put an end to her school career.

Each day Gracinda prepares her father's lunch before settling down to work until midnight. For her birthday she cooks pig's liver as a treat. When her mother is well, they can earn 10,000 escudos a month, about £40—the price of a pair of these shoes when they arrive in London.

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS**
- 1 Guy
 - 5 Way in or out
 - 9 Hidden assets
 - 14 Mixture
 - 15 Dye
 - 16 Miss Oakley
 - 17 Harrow's rival
 - 18 Pear-shaped
 - 19 Makeup
 - 20 Disney film of 1946
 - 23 Actor Williams
 - 24 Lodge brother
 - 25 Vocation
 - 28 TV actress
 - 29 Run up a tab
 - 32 SSAT, for one
 - 33 Island in the Firth of Clyde
 - 35 Positive word
 - 36 "Black Lamb and Grey Falcon" author
 - 40 Slippery
 - 41 A Sitwell
 - 42 Charge
 - 43 Parker's home
 - 44 Fleming's "Live and Let ..."
 - 45 Doubly nasty
 - 47 Harden
 - 48 Scottish seaside resort
 - 50 Advice from Greeley
 - 56 Clan emblem
 - 57 Astronaut Shepard
 - 58 Wisdom
 - 59 Wait
 - 60 Assay
 - 61 In any way
 - 62 Tread's connection
 - 63 Music and dance
 - 64 Study
- DOWN**
- 1 David and Goliath, e.g.
 - 2 Chorus member
 - 3 Celebrity
 - 4 Enduring
 - 5 Electrician on a TV set
 - 6 Singer O'Day
 - 7 Miserly
 - 8 Choice word
 - 9 North or South
 - 10 Aimee from Paris
 - 11 King of England: 1016-35
 - 12 Pitch placement
 - 21 Oslo coin
 - 22 Glacial pinnacle
 - 25 Early Persians
 - 26 Glorify
 - 27 Wnette or Grimes
 - 28 Part of a foot
 - 29 Expanse
 - 30 Squander
 - 31 Matriculate
 - 33 Rose's mate
 - 34 Soak flax
 - 37 Savior
 - 38 Improves text
 - 39 Cowpoke
 - 45 Silver and Traveller
 - 46 L-O-O-n-g time
 - 47 Man from Malmo
 - 48 Polk's predecessor
 - 49 Celebrity fete
 - 50 Asian desert
 - 51 Actress Cornelia
 - 52 Skinner
 - 53 Cheerio
 - 54 — code
 - 55 Larry Shur play, with "The"
 - 56 Popeye, for one

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

ORCA MASC MANIA
MELT EMMA EPOCH
AMAT ABET DORIS
HEWODOESNOT
ADEEP UNCHAIN
SYD RECIPE EIRE
AARON GNAW
OPENHISEYESMUST
VOLT ROILS
INEE ASTONE SAD
DECLARE EROSE
OPENHISPURSE
SCAPA AIDE STUM
EIDER TEEN TIRE
TOAST ERAT SEED

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q.1—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:**
♠KJ ♠94 ♠Q973 ♠A10972
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
Pass Pass 1 ♠ Pass
3 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass
? What do you bid now?
- Q.2—As South, vulnerable, you hold:**
♠K6 ♠8 ♠K72 ♠AQ107652
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
? What do you bid now?
- Q.3—As South, vulnerable, you hold:**
♠AQ102 ♠85 ♠6 ♠AKQJ93
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass
? What do you bid now?
- Q.4—As South, vulnerable, you hold:**
♠Q3 ♠KQ82 ♠AQJ532 ♠5
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
Pass 1 ♠ ?
? What action do you take?
- Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:**
♠K ♠KJ1065 ♠AQ6 ♠J864
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
Pass Pass 1 ♠ Pass
1 ♠ Pass ?
? What do you bid now?
- Q.6—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:**
♠AQJ96 ♠AJ1073 ♠J ♠74
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 2 ♠ Pass
? What action do you take?

THE WIZARD OF ID

By Brant Parker and Johnny Hart



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS



Aries (March 20 - April 18)

Mercury's more favourable influence will permit you to take a few calculated risks. Make sure you do not allow your emotions to run away with you. Do not say what you do not mean. Be amenable.



Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

Try not to allow your feelings to cloud your judgment. You will have what seems like a good idea but it is not practicable just now. You will have something to be really pleased about. Be fair.



Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You will be proved right but do not rub it in. You should keep your head high. Avoid spending too much time dealing with something trivial. Be generous.



Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You are all too liable to run out of steam and will need to make an extra effort. You should not indulge in too many daydreams. Listen to what others are saying but do not allow yourself to be swept off your feet. Be methodical.



Leo (July 22 - Aug 21)

Mercury's influence will help you to get where you want to be. You will not have time to do all you would like so get your priorities right. Do not expect others to work only for you. Be judicious.



Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)

Avoid doing anything that might commit you to something you did not intend. You are liable to say more than you should—restrain yourself. Do not take too much for granted. Be more tolerant.



Libra (Sept 22 - Oct 22)

The better influence of the Sun and of Jupiter will help you to make good progress in a personal matter. You will have plenty of energy but you must also try to put it to good use. Avoid exaggerations and stick to safe limits. Be objective.



Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)

Try to avoid becoming flustered, just get on with what you are doing, without thinking about what remains to be done. Your lucky numbers are 14 and 33. Your health should not be neglected. Do not become bogged down in detail.



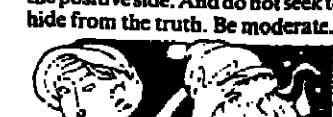
Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

You have the wind in your sails but you must keep your objectives firmly in mind. A little time spent tidying up is far from wasted. Avoid blaming others for what is really your fault. Be less extravagant.



Capricorn Dec 22 - Jan 19

Things are not what they seem and you should beware of being taken in by appearances. Try not to permit yourself to think how unfortunate you are, instead do look on the positive side. And do not seek to hide from the truth. Be moderate.



Pisces (Feb 19 - March 19)

The influence of Mars and Saturn will help you to get on with things. However you must not permit yourself to be distracted. A little more optimism is not out of place, but do not entirely forget the obstacles and difficulties.

ARAB TIMES Classifieds

ACCOMMODATION

Available

SALMIYA, near the Indian School. One room with water and electricity for two bachelors or a small family. Tel. Sharma, 5611539, 9 am - 11 pm, 5 pm - 9 pm.

QADSIYA, Block 8, Street 86, House 5, 2 rooms with water and electricity for a family. Bus route 16. Rent KD55. Tel. Abdul Mejeed 2544322, 2-8 pm.

SALMIYA near the Indian School. Single room with separate bathroom for a bachelor (non-smoker) to share with an Indian family. Tel. 2439264/6 ext. 223, 5630124.

(AT2-47737-3)

Wanted
JABRIYA or close, villa with large guest area, curtains and carpets, required for a couple. Rent KD700 (maximum). Tel. 5312870 ext. 45. (AT2-47796-3)

For Rent
SALWA opp. Messilah Beach Hotel. Villa. Tel. Mr. Salem, 2416397 11 am - 1.30 pm, 7.00 to 9.30 pm.

(AT1-47729-3)
KEFAN, first floor of villa, with 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, 1 hall, 1 saloon, equipped kitchen, swimming pool including the outside building (mushaq). Rent KD600. Tel. 4833984, 4833986.

(AT2-47810-3)
KUWAIT CITY, Shargh behind the Kufous Cinema, House No. 117, 2 bedrooms, one kitchen and a bathroom. Tel. 2405075. (AT3-47805-3)

FOR SALE

Miscellaneous

MISTRAL, windsurfer, KD 80. Tel. 5620963 after 3 pm. (AT2-47772-3)

(AT3-47804-3)

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VOLKSWAGEN Golf LS 1978, manual, 81,000 kms, one owner since new, insured up to June 1990, with full service history of V.W. in good condition, KD 300 cash. Tel. 5329105. (AT1-47773-3)

TOYOTA SR5, 89 model, 4-runner maroon, manual 11,000 kms. Filipino owner leaving Kuwait, in new condition. Tel. 5715683. (AT2-47769-3)

NISSAN Liberty 1985, white, 4 doors, AC, automatic, sunroof, 55,000 kms, one owner, in very good condition, KD 1,000 cash or installments. Tel. 2407677. (AT1-47771-3)

SAAB 900 Turbo, 1987, white, bought directly from the agency, rarely used, with full options in good condition, KD 2700 cash or by installments. Tel. 4718811 (Speak in Arabic). (AT2-47793-3)

RENAULT Fuego Turbo, 1984 AC, manual, 2 doors, hatchback, power steering, engine 2 litres, in excellent running condition, KD 900. Tel. Mr. Shouk, 2467500 ext 251, 7 am - 1 pm. (AT2-47776-3)

TOYOTA Crown, 1984, AC, black, 4 doors, insured up to January 1990, KD1,900 or by installments. Tel. 2403280. (AT3-47804-3)

TOYOTA Crown, 1982, automatic, AC, white, 4 doors, 75,000 kms, insured up to May 1990, KD1,200 or by installments. Tel. 5653952. (AT3-47804-3)

DAIHATSU Jeep '82 model, AC, manual, blue with removable roof, in good condition, KD 350. Tel. 3724837. (AT2-47775-3)

FIAT Uno 1300cc special, registered and 1985, manual, white, 48,000 kms with AC in perfect condition. Owner leaving Kuwait, KD 1250. Tel. 2401250, 8 am - 2 pm. Tel. 5748850, 3 - 8 pm. (AT2-47764-3)

NISSAN Bluebird, Turbo, 1984, AC, automatic, red, 4 doors, 63,000 kms, insured up to Nov 1989, KD1,200 or KD200 down payment and KD49 per month for 24 months. Tel. 5653952. (AT3-47804-3)

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Kafan - fully furnished 3 bed flat KD. 300 incl E&W
Shuwaib - Villa 5 beds, servant's qtrs, lift, marble floors, 2 baths in suite. KD. 700 negotiable
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Three-way tie for lead in classic

HARRISON, N.Y., June 11, (Reuters): Wayne Grady of Australia held onto a piece of the lead with Americans J.C. Snead and Dick Mast after the third round of the \$1 million Westchester Classic golf tournament yesterday.

The three golfers entered the final round in this tune-up for next week's US Open with 54-hole totals of 205, eight under par.

Grady had sole possession of the lead on nine-under until he bogeyed the long 15th hole. It was his only bogey but it offset his only birdie, a three-footer at hole 10.

"I struggled a bit and still shot 71," he said. "It's a good feeling to know you are not playing your best but you still are tied for the lead. Tomorrow, if I have some bullets in my gun, I'll be fine."

Snead birdied the 16th hole in windy conditions and finished with a one-under par 70 on the day. Mast had four birdies and four bogeys for his even-par 71.

Tom Sieckmann, who shared the lead after the second round, had a horrible day. He carded an eight-over par 79 to drop into a tie for 37th place at even-par 213.

Seven Ballesteros of Spain, the defending champion, also was at 213 after a 72.

Scott Hoch eagled the par-five 18th hole for a 67 and moved into a tie for fourth place with Mark Lye at six-under par 207.

The second round was suspended Friday afternoon, stranding 99 golfers, and completed yesterday afternoon.

Massey fires five birdies for 3rd round win

HIGH POINT, N.C., June 11, (Reuters): Debbie Massey carded five birdies and two bogeys to win the third round of the \$400,000 Pat Bradley International golf tournament by one point yesterday.

Massey's 13-point total edged out Nina Foust, who was tied for the lead until she three-putted the final hole to end with 12 points.

Massey earned \$6,000 for the win.

The tournament is being played under the modified Stableford scoring system in which points are awarded for birdies and eagles and deducted for bogeys and double bogeys.

Three golfers finished tied for third at ten points — strongly to make the three-point cut. With a score of minus one, she birdied the final two holes for four points.

Also making the cut for today's final round were Australia's Jane Crafter and Ayako Okamoto and Yuka Irie of Japan.

Parry ahead

RICKMANSWORTH, England, June 11, (Reuters): Australian Craig Parry produced a spectacular finish to take a one-stroke lead with a round to go in the Four Stars golf tournament at Moor Park yesterday.

Parry had a run of three birdies and then an eagle from the 14th for a six-under-par 66 and a three-round aggregate of 204 — 12 under par and one stroke ahead of compatriot Mike Harwood and former England amateur champion David Gilford.

Foster defeats Kingdom and Nehemiah in 110-metre hurdles

LOS ANGELES, June 11, (Reuters): Greg Foster, whose dream of going to the Olympics ended when he broke his arm, beat two-time Olympic champion Roger Kingdom and Renaldo Nehemiah in the 110-metre hurdles at the Jackie Joyner-Kersey invitational athletics meet yesterday.

Foster, competing in his first outdoor event since the United States Olympic

trials last July, took the lead at the second hurdle and never gave it up.

His time of 13.19 seconds matched the fastest in the world this year, set previously by Britain's Colin Jackson.

Kingdom was second in 13.28 seconds. The meet, which included more than 30 athletes who competed at the 1988 Seoul Olympics, served largely as a tune-up for next weekend's American national

championships in Houston.

Joyner-Kersey, a double gold medalist at the 1988 Games, won the 400-metre hurdles by Kim McKenzie in a time of 12.91 seconds. Joyner-Kersey got a terrible start out of the blocks and never could catch up, finishing two full metres off the pace.

The women's high jump provided another upset when Jan Wolschlag beat

1988 Olympics champion Louise Ritter. Wolschlag cleared the bar at 1.94 metres in her third and final attempt.

Joe Falcon, who won the NCAA 1,500 metres both indoors and outdoors, had the fastest time by an American this season in winning the mile in 3 minutes, 56 seconds.

Larry Myrick won the long jump at 27-6 and Kory Tarpenning went 18-8 to win

the pole vault over a field that included five of the best seven US vaulters.

Randy Barnes won the shot put with a 70 feet, 10 inches on his sixth and final throw. Barnes set the world indoor record of 74-4 1-1 in Los Angeles in January. Jim Dohring was second at 70-9 1-4. He raised his personal best twice during the competition with his first two throws ever over 70 feet.

Browning helps Reds blank Dodgers

Giants made to struggle for win over Padres

NEW YORK, June 11, (AP): Tom Browning stopped the Los Angeles Dodgers on five hits yesterday for his 19th win in 20 decisions against NL West opponents and the Cincinnati Reds won 5-0 for their ninth victory in 11 games.

The Cincinnati left-hander also helped his own cause with an RBI single.

"Browning pitched great today," Reds manager Pete Rose said. "I've told people that the Western Division is the toughest division, and Tom Browning is dominating the division."

Browning, 6-5, did not allow a Dodger past first until the seventh inning. He struck out six and walked one.

The Reds took a quick lead with two runs in the first against Tim Lincecum, 4-5.

"Today, everything went wrong," Belcher said. "I was all over the place. Hitting a guy on an 0-2 pitch, walked the pitcher. That's an unprofessional sin."

Elsewhere yesterday, it was San Francisco 1, San Diego 0; St. Louis 6, Chicago 0; Pittsburgh 6, New York 5; Montreal 9; Philadelphia 1; Houston 1; Atlanta 0.

Giants 1, Padres 0. Scott Garretts combined with two relievers on an eight-inning and San Francisco beat San Diego despite managing just two hits in eight innings against Ed Whitson.

Cardinals 6, Cubs 0. Joe Magrane pitched a six-inning first half complete game of the season and Tony Pena drove in three runs as St. Louis shut down Chicago for the second straight day.

Tigers 11, Blue Jays 8

Chet Lemon's three runs batted in and Keith Moreland's three runs scored helped Detroit build a 9-0 lead yesterday and the Tigers held on to beat the Toronto Blue Jays 11-8.

"There wasn't much good about that game," Detroit centre fielder Gary Pettis said. "really the only good thing was we won."

Boston lost after taking a 10-run lead last Sunday against Toronto and Pittsburgh lost to Philadelphia Thursday after taking a 10-0 lead in the first.

Detroit scored four runs in the third and four more in the fourth. Toronto scored four in the fifth and four more in the seventh. The Tigers had 15 hits, three each by Pettis and Pat Sheridan, and tied their season high for runs scored.

"This was a strange one," Sheridan said, talking about the wind in the skydome. "The ball would dip off the bat, or tail, then come back. It was a nightmare on defense, but a good day to be a designated hitter."

Jeff Robinson walked three in 1-2 innings, leaving with a 1-0 lead. Jimmy Key, 6-5, lasted three innings for Toronto, allowing five runs on six hits.

In other games yesterday it was: Boston 14, New York 8; Seattle 3, Cleveland 1; Milwaukee 6, Baltimore 0; Kansas City 5, California 4; Oakland 5, Texas 1; Minnesota 11, Chicago 8.

Red Sox 14, Yankee 8. Roger Clemens rebounded from a first-inning injury and Boston backed him with season highs of 14 runs and 19 hits. Nick Esasky, Rich Gedman and Luis

Rivera homered.

Mariners 3, Indians 1. Randy Johnson pitched three-hit ball for 7 2-3 innings. Henry Cotto homered in the eighth to snap a 1-1 tie and Jim Presley homered in the ninth.

Brewers 6, Orioles 0. Don August pitched a five-hitter for his second career shutout and Gus Polidor had three hits. August, 6-6, won his third straight. Jeff Ballard, 9-2, lost for the first time in seven starts.

Royals 5, Angels 4. Danny Tartabull hit a two-out home run in the eighth off Greg Minton, 1-2, the first homer of Minton this season.

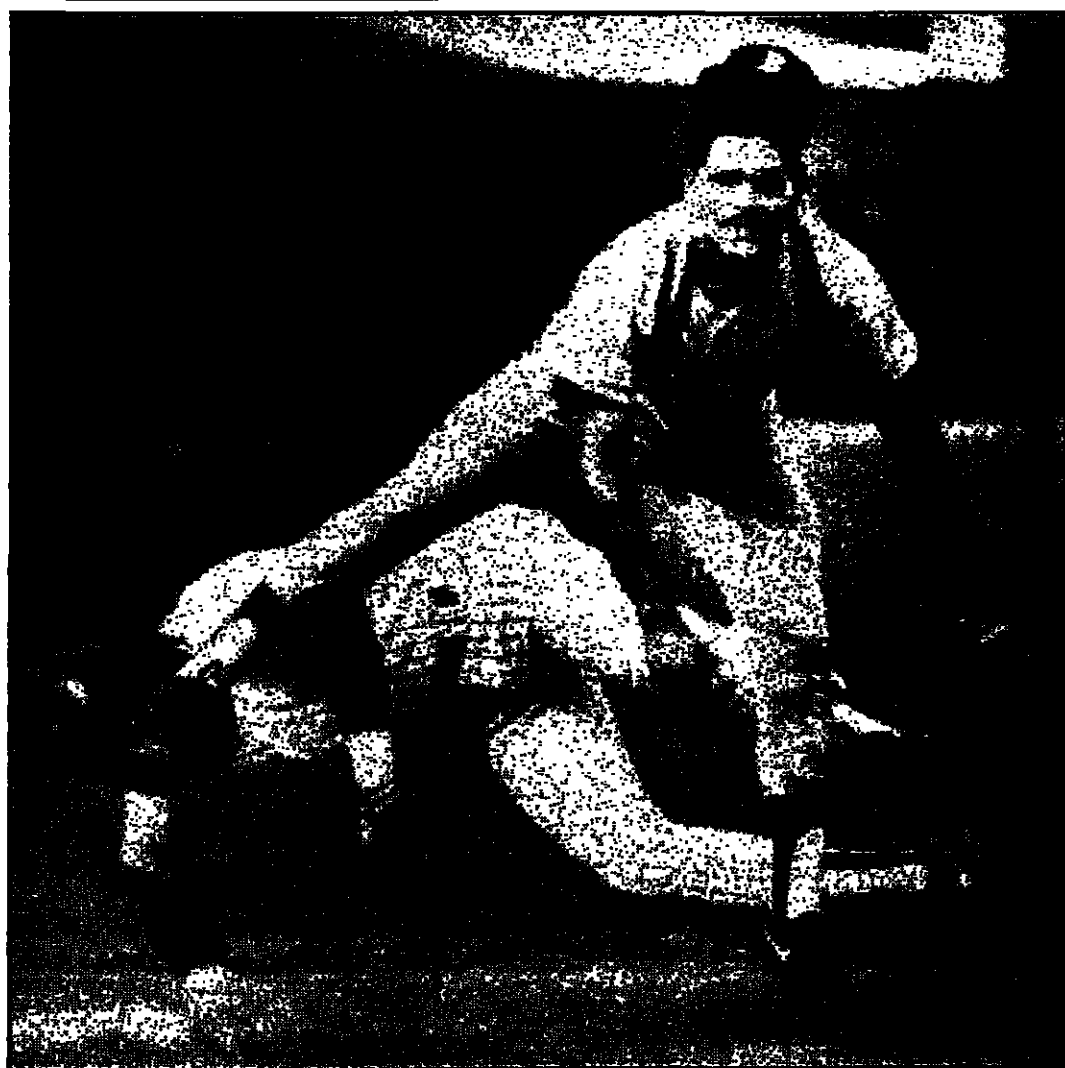
Standings

National League			
East Division			
	W	L	Pct.
Chicago	33	26	.559
Montreal	33	28	.541
St. Louis	29	28	.509
New York	28	29	.491
Pittsburgh	23	34	.404
Philadelphia	21	36	.368

West Division			
	W	L	Pct.
Cincinnati	35	18	.660
Houston	36	25	.590
San Francisco	35	26	.574
San Diego	30	33	.476
Los Angeles	28	31	.475
Atlanta	24	36	.400

American League			
East Division			
	W	L	Pct.
Baltimore	32	25	.561
Cleveland	29	30	.492
Boston	27	29	.482
Milwaukee	28	32	.467
New York	29	33	.466
Toronto	25	34	.424
Detroit	24	35	.407

West Division			
	W	L	Pct.
Oakland	39	21	.650
California	36	22	.621
Kansas City	35	24	.593
Texas	33	26	.558
Seattle	29	33	.469
Minnesota	27	32	.458
Chicago	22	39	.361



Red Sox shortstop Luis Rivera (top) follows flight of his throw after he forced out Yankee's Mel Hall. (Reuters wirephoto).

Easy Goer wins Belmont Stakes

ELMONT, New York, June 11, (UPI): Easy Goer atoned for his Kentucky Derby and Preakness losses and won yesterday's Belmont Stakes, robbing Sunday Silence of the triple crown.

Easy Goer, ridden by jockey Pat Day, beat 4-5 favourite Sunday Silence by eight lengths and finished the mile-and-a-half classic in a stunning 2:26 — the second fastest time in the history of the Belmont.

Le Voyageur, a 29-1 shot shipped from France earlier last week for his first start on

dirt, set the early pace and finished third, one length behind Sunday Silence.

Sunday Silence became the 12th Kentucky Derby-Preakness winner to lose the Belmont Stakes and lose a bid for the coveted triple crown. The last to fail was Alysheba, who finished fourth behind his Derby-Preakness runnerup Bet Twice in 1987.

Sunday Silence, ridden by Pat Valenzuela, still got a \$1 million consolation prize. His second place finish was good enough for him to claim the \$1 million challenge bonus awarded since 1987 to the best overall finisher in

the three triple crown races.

Had he managed to complete the sweep, however, Sunday Silence would have enriched his owners, Arthur Hancock, Dr Ernest Gaillard and trainer Charlie Whittingham, by \$5 million.

Day, a born again Christian who was aware of the public's demands he be pulled off the horse, always looks up to the sky and thanks God after every victory. Yesterday, he also thanked 80-year-old owner Ogden Phipps for "keeping me on the horse."

Yuh retains title for 12th time

SEOUL, June 11, (Reuters): South Korean Yuh Myung-Woo beat Argentina's Mario Demarco to retain his World Boxing Association (WBA) junior flyweight championship with a unanimous points win today. It was Yuh's 12th successful title defense.

In 1986, Demarco also lost on points to Yuh who had the edge in skill and speed in today's 12-round fight in Chonan.

Yuh, who took the title from Joey Olivo of the United States in 1985, is now unbeaten in 31 fights.

Filipino judge Silvestre Abaira gave Yuh the bout 118-113.

Walton wins Milk Race

BIRMINGHAM, England, June 11, (AP): Brian Walton became the first Canadian and only the second North American to win cycling's Milk Race by finishing in the middle of the pack to protect his 25-second margin in yesterday's final stage.

The Vancouver racer, in his first year as a professional after spending most of his youth concentrating on distance running, had taken the lead from Britain's Keith Reynolds in Friday's penultimate stage of the 13-day race.

Briton Mark Walsham won yesterday's 12th stage, a 68-mile (109-kilometre) run from Leicester to Birmingham, while Walton and Reynolds finished in the middle of 85 riders, all matching Walsham's time of 2 hours, 48 minutes, 50 seconds.

Walton, 23, a member of the 7-Eleven team, completed the 1,150-mile (1,840-kilometre) race around Britain in 43 hours, 34 minutes, 41 seconds. He was placed 33rd in the race as an amateur last year.

"I did not expect this kind of success so early in my pro career. It's my biggest win by a long shot," Walton said. "It was definitely a team victory."

Walton will seek the US Open title next weekend in Philadelphia, and the climbing specialist said he expects a good finish because of a steep hill on the course.

Walton's 7-Eleven team finished fourth overall of 17 squads in the race, with the French Z-Peugeot team placing first. The US amateur team was eighth.

Japan thrash Indonesia

TOKYO, June 11, (Reuters): After a goalless draw in Jakarta two weeks ago, Japan beat Indonesia 5-0 at home today in their World Cup soccer East Asia Group Six qualifier.

Japan scored four goals in the first 23 minutes, defender Takumi Horike getting the first after only five minutes.

Maeda headed home from a corner. In the 18th minute Katsuyoshi Shinto scored from a free kick and five minutes later striker Kenta Hasegawa made it 4-0 from a pass by Masanao Sasaki.

Indonesia, unused to the chilly weather and soft ground, fought hard in the second half but failed to penetrate the solid Japanese defence.

Marseille complete 'double'

Papin scores hat-trick

PARIS, June 11, (Reuters): A hat-trick by ace marksman Jean-Pierre Papin led Marseille to a 4-3 win over Monaco in the French Cup final yesterday, completing a League and Cup soccer double.

Papin, the League's leading scorer with 22 goals, struck with three superb efforts in the 12th, 22nd and 47th minutes.

But he missed the chance of a fourth when his 55th minute penalty — after Papin himself was tripped by Luc Sonor — was saved by Monaco goalkeeper Jean-Luc Ettori.

Marseille led 2-1 half-time after Marcel Dib pulled one back for Monaco in the 31st minute.

Marseille looked safe when their West German striker Klaus Allofs put them 4-1 up in the 65th minute but Monaco, prompted by English midfielder Glenn Hoddle, came back strongly in the late stages.

Dib grabbed a second goal 17 minutes from time and with three minutes left the midfielder was brought down in the box. Manuel Amoros scored from the spot and Marseille endured some anxious moments until the final whistle.



Amoros tries to stop Verocruysse (centre) of Marseille. (Reuters wirephoto)

The Parc des Princes stadium, packed with Marseille supporters waving blue and white scarves, erupted in a crescendo of noise as the team finally added the Cup to the League title they won last month.

Monaco, the previous season's champions, finished third in the League.

Leonard will KO Hearn: Duran

LAS VEGAS, Nevada, June 11, (UPI): Roberto Duran, who has a handshake agreement to meet the winner of the Sugar Ray Leonard-Thomas Hearn bout, yesterday predicted that Leonard will knock Hearn out in the seventh round.

"I believe Sugar is going to go around the ring in the first five or six rounds, and then take control," the 37-year-old Panamanian said through an interpreter. "Leonard beat him once. There's no way Hearn will beat him now. It will end in the seventh (on Monday night)."

Duran, who in February wrestled the World Boxing Council middleweight crown from Iran Barkley, is the only man to defeat Leonard. But Duran still struggles with his "no mas" defeat to Leonard in 1980.

"I have the right to fight Sugar because we're 1-1," Duran said. "After the last fight, he promised me another chance. I've been waiting and waiting. After the fight with Sugar, I will clarify every question (about the humiliating loss in New Orleans). Not now."

"I'm ready for Leonard. I don't know if Leonard is ready for me."

Duran, who has won titles in four different weight classes, said Leonard has not changed much despite the ballooned increase in muscle.

"In the boxing business, how big the muscles does not prove anything," he said. "What is important is what you know."

Duran admitted the only fight he wants is the one with Leonard. Promoter Bob Arum has talked of a late autumn match, but there has been speculation that former middleweight champion Marvin Hagler will come out of retirement and alter the scenario.

"I want to fight Leonard, no one else," he said.

The president of the World Boxing Council yesterday said Hearn was trying to smear Leonard by accusing him of using steroids.

WBC president Jose Sulaiman said Hearn had no proof of his charges against Leonard.

"Hearn's accusation is very grave because it detracts from the merits and the prestige of one of the greatest champions in the history of boxing," Sulaiman told the Associated Press.

Hearn and his manager, Emanuel Steward, both have accused Leonard of using the muscle-building drug, which is prohibited by the council. Leonard has denied it.

"Leonard has been one of the greatest fighters in the history of boxing and an accusation of this nature, if they make it official, should be punished if it turns out to be false," Sulaiman said.

Sulaiman, who said both fighters will take a drug test before tomorrow's fight, said he was "very disgusted" by the accusations.

Meanwhile, a woman was shot dead in a bedroom of Hearn's home last night and six witnesses were being questioned, police said.

One of the boxer's brothers was at the police station being accompanied by defence attorney Neil Fink, but Southfield police officer Gary Conat refused to say if Henry Hearn was among those being questioned.

International boxing Hall of Fame opened

CANASTOTA, New York, June 11, (UPI): A dozen fight-game immortals, including two former heavyweight champions, were on hand yesterday for the opening ceremonies of the international boxing Hall of Fame museum.

Former heavyweight titlists Joe Frazier and Floyd Patterson were joined by other boxing greats, including Jake "Raging Bull" LaMotta and Kid Gavilan, at the ribbon-cutting ceremonies.

"Boxing is a great sport and at its highest level it is not a contest of physical ability," said Jose Torres, an ex-fighter and former head of the state athletic commission. "Boxing is really and truly a contest of intelligence."

Torres, who recently completed writing "Fire and fear," biography of current heavyweight champ Mike Tyson, noted that despite critics' arguments against boxing, its champions have used more than muscle to escape poverty.

"I can see in your faces that you have a background of struggle and a background of hard work," Torres told a crowd of about 400.

Canastota smells like boxing," Torres added. "I really feel like home here."

Barcelona keep title hopes alive



Lineker: still a favourite with the crowd

BARCELONA, Spain, June 11, (Reuters): Barcelona crushed Atletico Madrid 3-0 with a powerful display of attacking football yesterday to keep alive their slender Spanish title hopes for another 24 hours.

But the second-placed Catalans, who have only two matches left, still need a string of blunders by leaders Real Madrid in their remaining three games if they are to snatch the championship from them.

Real, two points ahead, now need only a win against Espanol at home this evening to clinch the championship for the fourth year running.

With defeat meaning an automatic end to their title hopes, Barcelona attacked furiously against Atletico, themselves hungry for points to assure a place in the UEFA Cup next season.

Midfielder Roberto Fernandez put Johan Cruyff's side in the lead in the 38th minute, tapping home from close range after striker Julio Salinas laid the ball back to him following an Ernesto Valverde pass.

Left winger Aitor Beguiristain added the second eight minutes into the second half, swapping headers with Salinas and juggling the ball delightfully before volleying past Atletico's reserve goalkeeper Agustin Elduayen.

Ten minutes later Salinas capped Elduayen's miserable season's debut with an angled shot into the far corner after left back Julio Alberto had put him clear.

But there was a crumb of consolation for Elduayen six minutes from time when he saved a Julio Alberto penalty with a dazzling dive to his left.

Atletico, without League leading goalscorer Baltazar de Morais for the second half, counter-attacked vigorously but were never able to finish off their moves.

Unsettled Barcelona striker Gary Lineker, the subject of intense transfer interest from Tottenham Hotspur and Fiorentina, missed the clash with an injured knee.

But to remind Cruyff of his popularity at the club, banners could be seen among the small 10,000 crowd reading "Gary forever: you are the best."

SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

Arab athletics

KUWAIT, June 11, (KUNA): His Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah today received a cable from the head of the Arab Federation of Amateur Athletics Hussein Imam Dhafer thanking his Highness and Kuwait for hosting the seventh Arab Athletic Conference. Sheikh Saad sent Dhafer a reply cable saying Kuwait always welcomed gatherings which served to strengthen bonds among Arab youths.

Gary Lineker

BARCELONA, Spain, June 11, (Reuters): Striker Gary Lineker has accepted an offer to join English soccer club Tottenham, a Spanish newspaper said today. A fee of \$2 million is said to be involved.

McEnroe wins

BECKENHAM, England, June 11, (Reuters): Results at the Beckenham grasscourt tennis championships today (prefix number denotes seedings):

Women's singles final: 3-Rosalyn Fairbank (US) beat 2-Anne Minter (Australia) 6-3 6-3.

Men's singles final: 1-John McEnroe (US) beat 2-Brod Dyke (Australia) 6-4 7-6 (7-4).

Zambia triumph

LUSAKA, June 11, (Reuters): Zambia beat Tunisia 1-0 (half-time 0-0) in the World Cup African Zone, Group D soccer qualifier here today.

Champions Trophy

WEST BERLIN, June 11, (Reuters): The Netherlands beat Britain 2-0 (half-time 2-0) in a Champions' Trophy hockey match today. Scorers—Taco van der Horst (7th min), Marc Delissen (penalty 32nd).

Australia beat Pakistan 4-3 (half-time 2-1). Scorers: Australia—Mark Hager (10th, 36th, 51st mins), Michael York (38th), Pakistan—Mussadiq Hussain (27th), Wasim Feroze (56th), Qamar Ibrahim (65th).

Swiss champions

LUCERNE, Switzerland, June 11, (Reuters): Lucerne became Swiss soccer champions for the first time in their 88-year history when they beat Servette Geneva 1-0 yesterday.

Cup qualifier

IBADAN, Nigeria, June 11, (Reuters): Nigeria beat Cameroun 2-0 (half-time 1-0) in a World Cup Africa Zone Group C qualifying soccer match yesterday.

US triumph

MEXICO CITY, June 11, (UPI): The US men's basketball team yesterday afternoon beat Cuba 95-92 the third day of competition for Group A of the Americas tournament, in the qualifying rounds of the 1990 World Championship to be held in Argentina. The United States stands at 2-1, meanwhile Cuba dropped to 1-2.

British Open

BIRKDALE, England, June 11, (AP): Stephen Dodd became the fourth Welshman in a decade to win the British Amateur Open golf championship yesterday, defeating England's Craig Cassell 5 and 3 in a 36-hole final. Dodd, 22, the Welsh stroke-play champion, won the first three holes and had a seven-hole lead after the morning 18 holes.

Italian soccer

ROME, June 11, (Reuters): Results of Italian First Division soccer matches today:

Ascoli	2	Napoli	0
Bologna	1	Pescara	0
Como	2	Torino	3
Inter	4	Atalanta	2
Juventus	4	Lazio	2
Lecco	0	Cremona	0
Pisa	0	AC Milan	2
Roma	2	Florentina	1
Sampdoria	2	Verona	1

Italian 'Giro'

FLORENCE, Italy, June 11, (AP): Laurent Fignon of France won the 72nd edition of the Tour of Italy cycling race today, finishing fifth in the final against-the-clock stage which was captured by Lech Piatecki of Poland. The 28-year-old Fignon scored his first-ever triumph in the Italian "Giro" losing only 16 seconds to Italy's Flavio Giupponi in the 22nd and last stage from Prato to Florence.

Patrick McEnroe and Grabb clinch mixed doubles title

PARIS, June 11, (AP): Patrick McEnroe did something his famed brother John never did—win a men's title in the French Open tennis championships.

Patrick teamed with fellow American Jim Grabb to win the men's doubles title yesterday.

McEnroe and Grabb, the No 4 seeds but

playing in only their fifth grand prix event as a team, beat unseeded Eric Winogradsky of France and Mansour Bahrami of Iran 6-4, 2-6, 6-4, 7-6 in a match that was poorly attended but full of thrills.

In the mixed doubles final, Arantxa Sanchez, the women's singles champion, missed a chance to win two titles. The 17-year-old Spaniard followed her thrilling

singles victory over Steffi Graf by teaming with Horacio de la Pena of Argentina. But they were beaten 6-3, 6-7, 6-2 by the Dutch pair of Tom Nijssen and Manon Bollegraf.

John McEnroe never won the French Open either as a singles player nor as a doubles partner with Peter Fleming, though he did capture the 1977 mixed

doubles title with Mary Carillo. His younger brother made sure the family name was placed on a men's trophy.

"It feels good to be the first McEnroe to do it," said Patrick McEnroe, who turned pro less than a year ago. "It's something I did for myself and had nothing to do with John. I don't look at it as a consolation for him not being able to come (this year)."

Chang stuns Edberg for title

17-year-old makes history at French Open



Chang displays the winning trophy. (Reuters wirephoto)

PARIS, June 11, (Reuters): American Michael Chang became the youngest men's champion in French Open tennis history when he beat third seed Stefan Edberg of Sweden in a hard-fought final today.

Chang, aged 17 years and 3-1/2 months, came back from two sets to one down to defeat Edberg 6-1 3-6 4-6 6-4 6-2 in just over three hours and 40 minutes.

The American, following in the footsteps of Spaniard Arantxa Sanchez who yesterday took the honour of the youngest women's champion here when she beat last year's winner Steffi Graf, battled for every point against Edberg.

He took the Swede by surprise at first, going 5-0 up in the first 20 minutes in front of 16,500 fans on the sunny centre court at Roland Garros.

Chang, who knocked out world number one Ivan Lendl in the fourth round, opened with an ace and won the first game to love before Edberg, the third seed, had even begun to take stock of his opponent.

Edberg, who begins the defence of his Wimbledon title on the grass surface he prefers in the third round at Wimbledon last March, had beaten him twice before.

He served for the set, clinching his first set point when Chang,

one breakpoint in his next service game but put a forehand into the net on the second and then saw Chang, who has won only one title in his short career, hold service to love again.

Edberg, who beat West German Boris Becker in the semifinals, held service for 5-1 and saved three set points in a long seventh game before failing to reach a Chang backhand volley on the fourth.

Edberg won the second set 6-3 to pull level at one set all after sharpening his first serve which had been letting him down.

Chang had broken the Swede's serve to go 3-2 ahead. Two excellent returns took him to breakpoint and he stretched to reach a forehand volley at the net to win the game.

But Edberg, who has been enjoying his best season on clay, broke straight back with the aid of a Chang backhand mistake at 30-40.

He won the next three games, breaking Chang again to go 5-3 ahead and then wrapping up the set in 37 minutes.

The Swede, who lost to the American on a hardcourt in the third round at Indian Wells last March, had beaten him twice before.

He served for the set, clinching his first set point when Chang,

trying to return a difficult volley, hit a backhand lob long.

Edberg, appearing in his fourth Grand Slam singles final, moved into the lead when he won the third set 6-4 after breaking the 15th-seeded Chang twice at the start to go 3-0 ahead.

The American, normally a baseline specialist, began trying to play Edberg at his own serve and volley game and generally came off the worse in some rapid exchanges at the net.

Chang won back one break when Edberg hit a backhand out on the second break point but the Swede calmly held his next service game to love and gave away only two more points on service in the set.

Chang, who won the fans' hearts when he battled against cramp and exhaustion to beat Lendl in five sets last Monday, shook his head at his own mistakes as Edberg settled more and more into a confident rhythm.

Edberg, whose only career title on clay came at Gstaad two years ago, reached set point with a perfectly angled forehand volley and Chang obligingly put a backhand into the net on the next point.

An exchange of breaks opened the fourth set and then Chang had to save four breakpoints to hold his service in a third game which went six times to deuce.

Mercedes bury memories of 1955 accident

LE MANS, France, June 11, (Reuters): Mercedes marked their return to Le Mans after a 34-year absence by finishing first and second in the 24-hour sportscar race today.

Victory went to West Germans Jochen Mass and Manuel Reuter and co-driver Stanley Dickens of Sweden.

It helped bury bitter memories of 1955 when a Mercedes hurtled off the track and killed 82 spectators, an accident which prompted the company to quit the race.

Italians Mauro Baldi, Gianfranco Brancatelli and Briton Kenny Acheson captured second place for Mercedes ahead of the Porsche of West German Hans Stuck, twice a Le Mans winner, and Frenchman Bob Wollek.

Mass and his co-drivers completed 388 laps, five more than the second Mercedes.

Mercedes' arch-rivals Jaguar, who won last year with Dutchman Jan Lammers, suffered a series of disappointments with their four cars.

Leading hope Lammers led for 80 laps during the night, but around dawn gearbox trouble forced a 50-minute pit stop.

Mass took over on lap 234 and was never headed before that, Lammers finally settling for fourth position.

Only 19 of the 55 cars which started yesterday completed the race.



Sanchez sweet 17, but a lion on court

PARIS, June 11, (Reuters): Arantxa Sanchez may be sweet 17 in real life but put her on centre court and she becomes a lion waiting to devour its prey.

The bubbly, vivacious Spanish teenager with the angelic looks must have seemed more like a rampaging jungle animal to defending champion Steffi Graf in their three-hour battle of nerves at Roland Garros yesterday.

Sanchez came off triumphantly to become the youngest winner of the French Open women's singles final and her coach Juan Nunez was not surprised because he knows all too well the two sides to her nature.

"She's a very special girl, a very happy person with lots of charisma," he said. "She loves to play tennis and have a lot of fun on court."

"But she's two different persons. Off the court, she's a very sweet person, a kind girl. On court she turns into a lion. That's how people saw her today, the lion Arantxa."

Nunez' charge is the youngest of the tennis-playing Sanchez family from Barcelona. Elder brother Emilio was seeded 12th in the men's draw at the French Open but had to drop out through injury.

Second brother Javier was knocked out in the first round and elder sister Marisa has also played professional tennis.

Emilio, who teamed up with Andres Gomez of Ecuador to win the men's doubles title on the same court last year, watched with their parents as Arantxa became the first of the Sanchez family to win a major singles trophy.

"She is so talented I think we are going to have Arantxa Sanchez in the final here for many years," he said.

Nunez, who has also worked with Chris Evert, thinks her horizons are even broader. "She plays with strategy, she prepares her points well," he said. "We've worked a lot on her sliced backhand, serve and forehand."

"She still has a lot to learn but I feel she will be in the top three and stay there for a long time. She loves clay but now she has to believe she can win on other surfaces."

"Chris Evert and Bjorn Borg won Wimbledon from the baseline. There's no reason why she can't too."

Javier, who watched the match on television in Spain and celebrated with Cava, Spanish champagne, agrees she has the character to succeed.

"As far as temperament goes she is a genius," he said. "She is the best at that of any of us."

Sanchez, who showed promise of things to come when she beat Evert at the French Open last year, was finding it hard to come to terms with her victory, one of the biggest upsets in a women's final in Paris.

"I know I have a lot to learn," she said. "But I want to develop quickly to reach the level of Steffi Graf and Gabriela Sabatini."

The girl who is currently ranked 10th in the world said she owed much to the help given her by her tennis-playing brothers. Asked what she would do next, she replied with a big smile: "I'm going to celebrate big big with my family."

moment of his first experience of European rallying.

The 26-year-old Sheikh Ahmed with Irish co-driver Bobby Willis had been up to 16th place but an encounter with a gatepost dropped him back a little and — at the same time — cautioned him into a less aggressive approach to the leaders.

Just three seconds behind the Toyota at the Blair Castle rest halt in the Scottish Highlands was Lovell with the Lancia Delta Integrale of Finland's Sebastian Lindholm another four seconds adrift.

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Rainey finishes in second place

Schwartz wins Yugoslav Grand Prix

RIJEKA, Yugoslavia, June 11, (Reuters): Texan Kevin Schwartz led an all-American triumph in the Yugoslav Motorcycling Grand Prix today when he scored to his second 500cc win in successive weeks.

Suzuki-rider Schwartz, winner of the season's opening race in Japan and again in Austria last Sunday, beat off the challenge from compatriots Wayne Rainey and Eddie Lawson.

He outbattled early leader Rainey, riding a Yamaha, to win by 1.192 seconds with three-times world champion Eddie Lawson, on a Honda third, a further 14.478 seconds behind.

Schwartz used his pole position to take the early lead but Rainey skillfully outbraked him two bends later, with Lawson carefully watching them from behind.

The reigning champion then

made his move three bends later and pushed Schwartz into the third place.

The three soon pulled clear from the rest of the field, riding in a close formation for the next 12 laps and then Lawson passed Rainey to take the lead.

It was short-lived, however, as he went wide at a fast corner a lap later and his bike slid wildly on the grass.

Lawson somehow managed to recover, but Schwartz used the confusion to take the lead.

He and Rainey pulled away from Lawson, but their private duel was not decided until the last lap when Schwartz displayed more calm in overtaking backmarkers and built the biggest cushion he had enjoyed in the race.

Although it was his third win of the season, and fifth of his career, he still lies only fourth in

the world championship with 77 points, 46 fewer than leader Rainey and 33 behind second-placed Lawson.

In the 250cc class Spanish world champion Alfonso "Sito" Pons grabbed his fourth win in a row, and fifth this season, when he outpowered West German Reinhold Roth in the last bend of the race.

The two works Honda riders enjoyed their own battle throughout the race, constantly swapping places after early top contenders Italian Luca Cadalora on Yamaha and West German Helmut Bradl on Honda crashed on the ninth lap.

Pons moved closer to his second world title with 147 points, 48 more than French Yamaha rider Jean-Philippe Ruggia.

"This is my greatest win, no

doubt," said a broadly smiling Schwartz. "We sacrificed Saturday's practices to test race tyres only, and it paid off."

"We were able to use this experience, so my tyres were fresh enough towards the end of the race when lapping backmarkers became crucial."

He said his championship chances were extremely slim but added: "There's always the hope somebody might make a mistake somewhere."

"I'll concentrate on winning more races. Second places don't interest me at all."

Lawson said his chance ended with his mistake on the fast bend. "After my excursion on the grass the bike was never perfect again and I settled for third place."

Rainey said he had problems in the closing stages.

England look to Lamb to avoid follow-on

LEEDS, England, June 11, (Reuters): England will be looking to Allan Lamb to reproduce yesterday's scintillating form and take them to the safety of a draw against Australia when the first Test resumes tomorrow.

Lamb, 103 not out in England's 284 for four, knows that his target must be at least 150 to ease England's fear of the follow-on, after the tourists produced a daunting first innings total of 601 for seven declared.

With 118 still needed, England are far from safe and past performances indicate that Lamb's concentration is prone to dip after the

three figure mark.

It was his first century against Australia but his eight previous Test hundreds read: 137 not out, 113, 110, 107, 107, 102 not out, 100, 100 not out.

But the aggressive stand with Kim Barnett, which added 114 for the third wicket, gave England hope.

"Allan was brilliant, nearing his best. We've known for years how good he is but he has not always produced it in Tests," England captain David Gower said. Gower was dismissed for 26 after Barnett fell lbw for 80.

Australian skipper Allan Border also com-

plimented the South-African born batsman.

"Lamb was in fantastic nick, brilliant stuff. It runs for you sometimes, but I hope he will do the right thing and get out early on Monday so we can get on with the game," he said.

"There are still two days to go and if we can get some quick wickets with the new ball anything can happen," he added.

Border scored a rapid and spirited 66 in Australia's highest-ever total at Headingley, while Mark Taylor on 136 and Steve Waugh 177 not out celebrated their maiden Test centuries.

Shastri and Butcher hit tons for Glamorgan

LONDON, June 11, (Reuters): Indian all-rounder Ravi Shastri hit a superb 127, his first hundred of the season, and helped to inspire a Glamorgan fightback on a day that produced four other century-makers in the English County Cricket Championship yesterday.

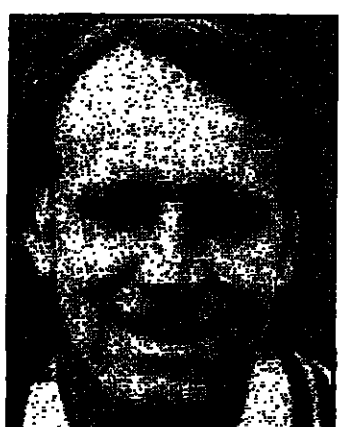
Shastri's team-mate, opener Alan Butcher, scored 101 and shared a fourth-wicket stand of 216 with the Indian vice-captain to rescue the Welsh county from 30 for three against Middlesex at Abergavenny.

Nottinghamshire captain and opener Tim Robinson, with 128 against Kent, David Capel, who pulled leaders Northamptonshire out of trouble by making 102, and Surrey's Alec Stewart, who piled up a career-best 178 not out, completed the outstanding batting performances.

Shastri, recently back from India's tour of the Caribbean, lit up his innings with four sixes and 14 fours, while Butcher's second



Ravi Shastri



Alan Butcher



Alec Stewart

century of the summer came from 297 balls and contained 10 fours. Glamorgan declaring at 302 for seven.

Northamptonshire, having lost their first three wickets for 37 against Sussex at Hove, made 223 all out under the influence of Capel's first championship cen-

tury of the season. His 102, scored out of 125 added while he was at the crease, included 17 fours — there were only four other boundaries in the innings.

Stewart took advantage of an Essex attack weakened by the absence on Test duty of Neil Fos-

ter and Derek Pringle to beat his previous best of 166 against Kent three years ago.

"Stewart, blending rigid defence with flowing drives and clips off his legs as he struck a six and 20 fours, shared a second-wicket stand of 186 with Graham Clinton (70) as Surrey piled

up 324 for four at the Oval.

An opening stand of 222 — the highest for Nottinghamshire at Trent Bridge since 1951 — between Robinson and Paul Pollard was the basis of their 377 for seven declared after being put in by Kent.

Scores

At Abergavenny: Glamorgan 302 for seven declared in 106.4 overs (R. Shastri 127, A. Butcher 101). Middlesex 17 for no wicket off six overs.

At the Oval: Surrey 324 for four (A. Stewart 178 not out, G. Clinton 70) v Essex.

At Trent Bridge: Nottinghamshire 377 for seven declared in 103.4 overs (T. Robinson 128, P. Pollard 83, T. Cairns 58, D. Randall 56). Kent 23 for no wicket off eight overs.

At Hove: Northamptonshire 233 in 93 overs (D. Capel 102, A. Figg 55 for 52). Sussex 36 for no wicket off 14 overs.

At Worcester: Worcestershire 230 in 86.4 overs (T. Curtis 58, P. Newman three for 30). Derbyshire 47 for one off 20 overs.

At Taunton: Yorkshire 239 in 85.2 overs (M. Moxon 51, G. Rose three for 51). Somerset 22 for no wicket off 16 overs.

At Leicester: Leicestershire 145 in 57.4 overs (N. Briers 48, C. Walsh four for 37, K. Curran three for 35). Gloucestershire 129 for three off 48 overs (J. Lloyds 43).

By Sonny R. Mariano

LANDO Maradona Caburao of the Philippine Embassy and Cora Paras emerged as champions in their respective divisions in the Philippine National Day Open bowling tournament played at 300 Club bowling lanes on Friday.

Both champions got hold of their championship trophy by coming out victorious in the step-ladder finals. In the men's division, the first match of the step-ladder was between Jim Cheng and Jimmy Tadena. Jimmy prevailed without much problem but his next opponent Lando Caburao proved too strong for him, thus setting the stage for showdown between top qualifier Pete Valisno Jr. and crowd favourite Lando fondly called "The Banana King."

It was a close match in first few frames until Lando waxed hot and exploded with three consecutive strikes and things were made easier for him as Pete was



Yacoub Al Kandri opening the event

plagued with splits. As early as the 8th frame it was clear that the Banana King would run away with the trophy.

In the women's division, the opening game was between Cora Paras and Babes Penolosa which the veteran striker Cora won. The next hurdle on Cora's path for the title was the equally consistent Nitz Alinez. Cora it seems was too hot for Nitz to handle so Cora continued her quest for the title this time against Mercy Laborce of SAS Hotel. The match was pretty close all the way